



**WEST END WATCH**

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# ARAB TIMES

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Philippine constabulary loyal to President Aquino run for cover before launching an assault on rebel positions. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Foreigners can walk, say Scouts as Cory calls tourist truce

# Makati rebels hold

### Rangers will fight until Aquino resigns

MANILA, Dec 4, (AP): Rebel soldiers positioned in hotels and high-rises fired on government troops in the Makati financial district today, refusing to end a four-day-old mutiny and trapping hundreds of people in homes and hotel rooms.

President Corazon Aquino's government today proposed a temporary ceasefire with army rebels so it could evacuate hundreds of foreign tourists trapped by fighting in Manila's financial centre.

Tourism officials made the offer after the mutineers, perched on the rooftops

of buildings and fighting to overthrow Aquino, bombarded positions of loyalist forces with grenades, bazooka rockets and artillery.

A rebel spokesman later said the trapped foreigners would be freed tomorrow but he said it did not mean mutineers were giving up their fight to oust Aquino.

"We pledged our lives to this cause. We will hold the line to the last drop of our blood," said the spokesman, Capt. Alfred Yen.

Meanwhile, two bombs exploded in Manila, injuring three people. It was unclear if they were related to the coup attempt, which began on Friday and has killed at least 70 people.

Hundreds of Japanese, American and other foreigners were pinned down in homes and hotels in Makati, a fashionable suburb of Manila, where forces loyal to Aquino contained the mutineers to 22 buildings.

About 400 rebels were also still occupying Marican air base in Cebu, 560 kilometres (330 miles) south of Manila. Their leader refused to give up and threatened to blow up the base's planes.

In Manila, the rebel spokesman telephoned news organisations to say the insurgents would release the foreigners to dispel suspicions they were being held hostage.

The statement said foreigners would be free to leave the hotels at 10 am (0200 GMT) tomorrow and would be taken to Manila's airport aboard shuttle buses. There was no word if foreign embassies had been informed of the offer.

US embassy spokesman Jerry Huchel said 215 Americans were believed trapped in three hotels in Makati. More than 300 Japanese were also believed to be in the Makati hotels.

**Trapped**  
About 20 West Germans were reported in hotels and about 50 trapped in an apartment building. As many as 100 Canadian tourists and businessmen were in hotels and apartments in Makati.

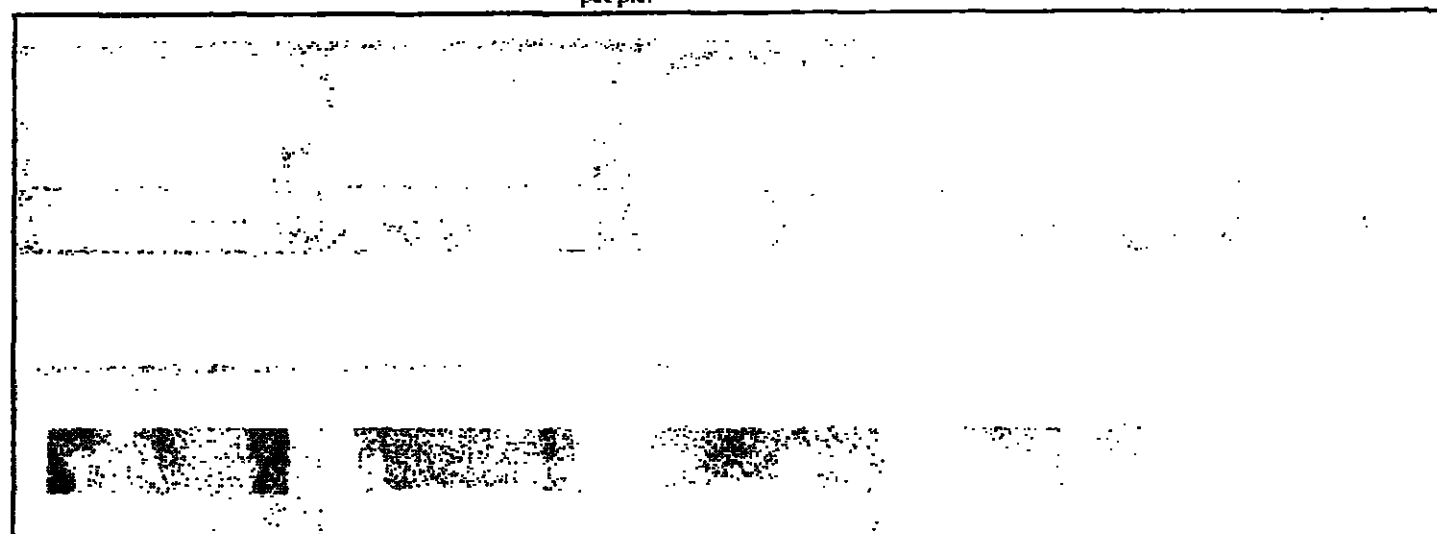
"Literally, we're in the middle," said Barbara Julich, a New York businesswoman trapped in the Intercontinental Hotel. "We're now low on food. There are babies in the building, and there is no baby food, and the mothers are hysterical."

"We saw a group of nuns trying to walk where the tanks are. They were eventually shot at and took cover," she said.

At least three people were slain in Makati today and 15 were wounded by rebel snipers and in fighting between rebel and loyalist forces.

Earlier, spokesman for the Makati Medical Centre said 10 people had been killed. They later said the discrepancy was due to an error in records.

At least 70 people have been killed and more than 500 wounded since mutineers seized several military installations and



Rebel troops of the elite Scout Rangers hold positions on the rooftop of Intercontinental Hotel in Manila. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Vote on PLO delayed again

UNITED NATIONS, Dec 4, (AP): The General Assembly voted today whether the PLO will be recognised as the provisional government of Palestine was postponed again today.

"The vote will come in due course, but not today," said Zuhdi Labib Terzi, the PLO's UN ambassador. The exact date of the vote has not yet been announced.

The vote was originally scheduled for Friday, but on that day Arab League Ambassador Clovis Maksoud announced a postponement and declared there would be a "final, categorical and unequivocal" vote today.

Currently, the PLO is an observer organisation. It is seeking recognition as a non-voting observer government, like North and South Korea, Switzerland, San Marino, Monaco and the Vatican.

The State Department says it will cut off all US funds for the United Nations if the PLO's status is upgraded. The United States is assessed \$216 million annually, one-fourth of the UN's budget.

One Western diplomat, speaking privately, said a rift has developed between PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, who is in Tunis, and Farouk Khaddoumi, the PLO Foreign Secretary who heads the Palestinian UN delegation.

Khaddoumi has been trying to line up the votes for the resolution, while Arafat believes the effort is counter-productive and has ordered a halt to it, the source said.

European diplomats and the General Assembly President, Maj.-Gen. Joseph Garba, worked through the weekend and around the clock today to try to head off a showdown over the issue, officials said.

## Singh will please competing groups

'Ministry making is not easy'

NEW DELHI, Dec 4, (Agencies): India's new Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh is trying to create a cabinet that would satisfy competing groups before seeking a vote of confidence for his minority government, a party spokesman said today.

United News of India said the new ministers will be sworn in by President Ramaswamy Venkatarman tomorrow morning.

There were no details on who would be named to the cabinet, the number of ministers or what portfolios they would hold.

Singh, who was sworn in as Prime Minister on Sunday, immediately named 75-year-old peasant leader Devi Lal as his deputy prime minister.

Lal represents the old guard in Singh's National Front, an alliance of five parties formed only last year.

"Ministry making is not easy. It's a hell of a job," said Satyapal Malik, secretary of the Janata Dal, the main party in the alliance.

The National Front, only the second non-Congress Party to take power in India, is depending on support from the rightwing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Marxist groups, without inviting them into a coalition.

Indian President Ramaswamy Venkatarman asked the National Front to form a government after Rajiv resigned last

week following humiliating Congress losses in national elections. Congress and its allied parties remain the single largest party, holding 209 seats in the 545-member parliament.

The National Front has 144 seats. But the BJP, which has 88 seats, and four left parties with 51 have promised their support. Singh's problem is the two outsider groups have incompatible programmes and detest each other.

Singh, led the National Front to a sweeping victory in the northern Hindi-speaking heartland states in last month's elections. But Rajiv and Congress did well in the non-Hindi speaking states of the south.

"Yes, the front's losses in the south make it difficult in picking people from that region, but the problem is not insurmountable," Malik said.

Lal's first act as deputy prime minister was to fly to the southern city of Madras for talks with National Front allies at the weekend.

Malik said the front could draw enough southern talent from the upper house of Parliament, where Congress still has a slim majority.

"The efforts are to provide a government that is broad-based and representative of every region," Malik said.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Troops to stay in Europe: Bush

BRUSSELS, Dec 4, (Agencies): US President George Bush pledged today that the United States would keep its troops in Europe as long as leaders there desire, despite the "peaceful revolution" sweeping Eastern Europe.

Bush, addressing a news conference after briefing leaders of the NATO alliance about his two-day summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, said the United States and its European allies would work together to see that "individual freedom everywhere replace coercion and tyranny."

Asked whether the cold war was over, the President wouldn't go as far as Gorbachev, who said on Sunday that the world was leaving the "epoch of the cold war."

Bush declined to concur. "If I say that," he said, "then they'll be asking me, 'why do you need troops in Europe?'"

Bush's meeting with NATO leaders was private, but Dutch Foreign Minister Hans Van Den Broek told reporters the President said the superpower leaders had agreed to aim for an East-West summit in Vienna next summer to sign a landmark treaty reducing conventional forces in Europe.

Bush and the allied leaders met as Gorbachev was convening a



Czech rally

Two Czech women scream their approval for a 'Civic Forum' who addressing a mass rally of some hundreds of thousands of Czechs. It is the first rally since a new government was named in which five of the 21 posts went to non-communists. (Reuters wirephoto)

meeting of a radically reordered Warsaw Pact in Moscow.

The 16 NATO and seven Warsaw Pact nations are negotiating in Vienna to cut conventional forces in Europe. Van Den Broek quoted Bush as saying he hoped an accord could be reached about mid-1990.

"Let's get it done," the President said.

The conventional arms talks are designed to reduce US troops in Europe by 30,000 and Soviet troops by 325,000 to a level of about 275,000 on each side. The negotiations also are attempting to control tanks and other weapons.

The superpowers are also negotiating a treaty to cut long-range nuclear weapons by up to

50 per cent, and a separate agreement on banning chemical weapons.

The President began his news conference with a statement that said a "peaceful revolution" was taking place in eastern Europe, where five hardline communist

(Continued on Page 2)

(Related stories Page 7)

## Dissolve CP: ask 200,000

LEIRZIG, East Germany, Dec 4, (Reuters): More than 200,000 East Germans rallied today in Leipzig to demand German reunification, the dissolution of the Communist Party and an end to corruption.

"We are not talking about the politburo," said one speaker to thunderous applause on Leipzig's main Karl Marx square. "We are talking about the dissolution of the Communist Party."

Others speakers called for reunification with West Germany and at least 10 West German flags fluttered in the cold breeze. Demonstrators chanting "rotten rubble" besieged the local security police offices in Leipzig today and opposition groups formed a human barrier to protect the building.

Witnesses said opposition movements from New Forum, democratic awakening and various church groups linked arms to prevent the crowd reaching the sealed doors of the grey, five-storey regional office for national security. (See earlier reports Page 7)

## NEWSWATCH

**Device to detect cancer:** Israeli scientists on Sunday unveiled a device they said could detect cancer from a blood sample in a few hours. Inventors professor Arye Weinreb and Doctor Mordechai Deutsch said their cytoscan was a cheap, fast and simple alternative to present methods but added it was still in the development stage and had not yet been fully tested. (Reuters)

**Soviet oil refinery aflame:** A major fire raged on Monday more than 28 hours after it started at a Soviet oil refinery, engulfing a tourist centre in the Black Sea resort of Batumi and forcing the evacuation of people from the threatened apartment buildings. The official Tass news agency said there were no casualties in the fire, which it said began at 7 pm Sunday when a tank containing 3,000 tons of oil burst into flames at the refinery in the Georgian republic's resort city of 132,000 people. (UPI)

**Rival militias battle:** Fighting between rival Shiite Muslim militias erupted in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa valley on Monday and at least 20 people, including some civilians, were killed or wounded, security sources said. Men of the Syrian-backed Amal militia and the pro-Iranian Hezbollah battled with mortars and machine-guns in Mashgharah and Sohmar villages, where both groups maintain forces. (Reuters)

## ARAB TIMES

### Grand Bingo

Carlos Menezes has won the Top Line prize. He will receive KD25. Game No 74 continues for the First, Second and Third Full House prizes.

**Weather**

CLOUDY weather with moderate north-westerly wind.  
State of sea: Slight to moderate  
High water: 3.00 am, 5.30 pm  
Low water: 10.30 am, 10.30 pm  
Sunrise: 6.28 am  
Sunset: 4.49 pm  
Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 17°C 63°F  
Ahmad: 19°C 66°F  
Fahala: 20°C 68°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 9°C 48°F  
Ahmad: 11°C 52°F  
Fahala: 11°C 52°F  
Maximum temperatures expected:  
Kuwait: 15°C 59°F  
Ahmad: 17°C 63°F  
Fahala: 17°C 63°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 89 per cent  
Ahmad: 81 per cent  
Fahala: 97 per cent



## Tigers kill 4 Indian soldiers

COLOMBO, Dec 4, (Kuna): Four Indian peace-keeping force (IPKF) soldiers were killed yesterday in an ambush carried out by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in eastern Sri Lanka, a government communiqué said.

The IPKF was on mobile patrol in Kinniya, village west of Trincomalee in the eastern coast where the north-east provincial council is based, the communiqué added.

Meanwhile, during the 72 hours ending 0600 hours (local time) today, 160 subversives have surrendered to the security forces, following the appeal made by the government to the misguided youth, the communiqué further said. The time-frame for surrender expires today.

Some of those who surrendered in response to the government's call did so with arms and ammunition, a high-ranking security official said.

The largest number of youths who surrendered came from the Anuradhapura area in the north-central province 162-kms north-east of Colombo, the official said.

The ages of the youths who surrendered ranged between 18 and 30 years, the official added.

Sri Lankan air force helicopters dropped about 350,000 pamphlets over rebel strongholds in central and southern Sri Lanka yesterday, assuring the radicals of safety if they surrendered, the radio said.

It said camps have been set up in temples and police stations to receive the rebels of the People's Liberation Front, an ultra-nationalist group that has been trying to overthrow the government since 1987.

The amnesty was the first offered by the government since security forces killed the front's top leaders last month. Although earlier amnesties led to hundreds of surrenders, the violence continued in Sri Lanka.

A government statement said Front activists killed two policemen and a soldier in separate attacks Sunday and early today.

It said troops shot to death two radicals and captured another during the same period. The statement from the information department did not give details.

More than 6,000 people have been killed since the People's Liberation Front began attacking the government to protest an India-sponsored peace accord that was aimed at pacifying Tamil secessionists in the north-east.

As the attacks escalated, so did the killings of young Sinhalese described by the government as suspected members of the Front.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Swiss border guard slain:** A lone suspect shot and killed a Swiss border guard near the Italian frontier yesterday and police on both sides of the border were hunting for the man with helicopters and tracking dogs, authorities said.

A police spokesman said it was too early to tell whether the slaying was a terrorist act like other such attacks in the past.

Yesterday's killing apparently occurred when the officer, Kurt Moser, 36, got out of his patrol car to identify a man on foot. (AP)

**Dinkins's stock probed:** Mayor-elect David Dinkins said he was not worried by a federal probe into a stock transfer to his son, said to be part of a larger investigation into a cable television franchise.

"I'm confident this inquiry will reveal that there's nothing with which I need to be concerned," Dinkins said yesterday.

Dinkins said the investigation stems from a suggestion by his defeated opponent in the Nov 7 mayoral election, Republican Rudolph Giuliani, who said during the campaign that the stock deal should be examined. (AP)

**GE reference deleted:** An NBC "Today" show television report saying General Electric Corp. used shoddy parts in aircraft engines was edited to delete references to GE, owner of NBC, at least two American newspapers reported.

The editing was confirmed by an NBC official and by the Chicago Tribune reporter who did the story, the Chicago Tribune said. A similar story confirming the deletion was published Saturday in the Washington Post.

The edited three-minute report, which aired Thursday on the "Today" show, summarised a recent televised series broadcast by WMAQ-TV, NBC's owned and operated Chicago outlet. The story was reported by Peter Karl, a veteran investigative reporter. (UPI)

**Sexual harassment survey:** Many women lawyers in large firms experience sexual harassment on the job and feel they have fewer chances than men for top assignments, according to a survey released yesterday.

The survey, published in today's edition of the National Law Journal, was based on responses from 913 women lawyers who work in large law firms in 13 cities.

The results showed that 60 per cent of the respondents said they had experienced unwanted sexual attention, like sexual teasing, remarks or questions, from co-workers or clients. Nearly one-third said they had experienced sexual looks or gestures. (AP)

**Federal prisons bulging:** The federal prison system in the United States is 56 per cent over capacity, with more than twice as many inmates as in 1980 when the system was less than one per cent above capacity, a congressional report said.

Federal prisons contained 241,625 inmates in 1980, but the number mushroomed to 48,017 by 1989, said the report yesterday by the General Accounting Office, Congress' investigative arm.

The 70 institutions operated by the federal system were designed to hold a maximum of 30,860 prisoners. (AP)

**Balchowsky memorial service:** A memorial service is planned for Thursday for Eddie Balchowsky, a pianist, artist and poet who lost an arm as a member of Abraham Lincoln Brigade in the Spanish Civil War.

Balchowsky, 73, was killed Wednesday by a train on Chicago's North Side, authorities said. Police said witnesses reported that Balchowsky jumped in front of the train, but several of his friends said he was under heavy medication and may have lost his balance.

"To me he was Lazarus," said Pulitzer prize-winning author Studs Terkel. "Eddie had lived about seven different lives. A number of times we thought he had died and he'd show up again," usually with younger and younger girls. (AP)

**Carter honoured:** Former president Jimmy Carter, a white South African and an Israeli village were honoured yesterday with Beyond War awards designed to encourage human co-operation and peaceful solutions to conflicts.

Carter and his wife, Rosalyn, were honoured for their work with the Carter Centre of Atlanta, as were the residents of Neve Shalom/Wahat Al Salam, an Israeli village where Jews and Palestinians live together.

Ivor Jenkins accepted an award on behalf of his tests.

The navy said its ships had to "shoulder" aside a large ship carrying protesters and catch and tow away two high-speed rafts, called Zodiacs, from the launch area.

Greenpeace USA peace activists said the MV Greenpeace with 25 people aboard was "dead in the water" after a navy vessel poured water down its smoke stacks into the engine room.

Greenpeace had sent the ship and the rafts into the area in an effort to halt the Trident 2 flight, just as it had done successfully with a similar intrusion on another launch attempt on July 28.

This time the 44-foot (13-metre) missile shot out of a tube on the Tennessee's deck, broke the Atlantic Ocean surface, ignited and propelled a dummy warhead package to a target several thousand miles (kms) away.

"We issued repeated warnings to clear the area," Cmdr Deborah Burnette, a navy spokeswoman, said today.



**Intruder**

A Thai military policeman gently shoos away a cat which intruded onto the parade ground during Thailand's annual Trooping of Colours ceremony before King Bhumibol Adulyadej yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

group, the Koitiona Southern Africa, which seeks to offer black and white South Africans a better understanding of one another. (UPI)

**Call to restore citizenship:** Soviet Culture Minister Nikolai Gubenko says a group of exiled artists, including writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn, should be given back their citizenship as soon as possible, Moscow radio said today.

Solzhenitsyn, who won the Nobel prize for literature in 1970, was expelled from the Soviet Union and stripped of his citizenship not long after his "Gulag Archipelago" appeared in the West in 1974.

Gubenko said Solzhenitsyn and cellist Mstislav Rostropovich, who both now live in the United States, had been unlawfully deprived of their citizenship, the radio said. (Reuters)

**Vandals his pet cemetery:** A pet cemetery was vandalised, but its most famous grave, that of Richard Nixon's dog Checkers, was untouched, authorities said.

"Mischievous kids" struck at the Bide-A-Wee cemetery on Long Island early Saturday and kicked over about 200 tombstones, said police officer Robert Feeley.

The tombstone of the cocker spaniel immortalised in a speech by Nixon after he was vice-presidential candidate was among those spared. (AP)

**Quake reported in Kirghizia:** A moderate earthquake was recorded yesterday in the Kirghizia republic, the Tass news agency said today. There were no reports of deaths or damages.

According to the republic's Seismology Institute, the earthquake, measuring 5 on the 12-point Soviet scale, occurred at 12:51 pm. Its epicentre was located 30 kilometres (31 miles) south of the town of Osh, 2,550 kilometres (1,600 miles) southeast of Moscow, Tass said.

"Earth tremors ranging from 3.5 to 4 points were also felt in Iki Naukas and Sufikurgan villages and in Osh," Tass said.

There was no damage or loss of life. (AP)

**Thai toys boycott:** Jean-Claude Prince, a trade unionist in the canton of Jura, has called for a boycott of all toys from Thailand as Amnesty International has reported child slavery in the Thai toy industry, a Swiss daily reported today.

La Suisse observed that in Bangkok more than 100,000 children, mostly from rural areas and aged between 12 and 15, are forced to work under appalling conditions in toy factories.

The children, who are not allowed to leave the factory premises, are reportedly paid between \$100 and \$250 for two to three years. A young girl of 13, working 12 hours a day, six days a week, earns \$27 a month, but it was not rare to find a 10-year-old working 14 hours a day for only \$21 a month, the daily noted. (Kuna)

## 'Troops to stay in Europe'

(Continued from Page 1)  
regimes have fallen in recent weeks.

He said the task for western nations is to consolidate the fruits of change and create a "Europe whole and free."

At the same time, he said the western alliance "must remain strong," and promised the

United States "will maintain significant military forces in Europe as long as our allies desire our presence."

Of particular interest to the NATO leaders in their meeting with Bush was the subject of the reunification of Germany, as proposed by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl -- but

which Gorbachev opposes, said National Security adviser Brent Scowcroft.

Bush said he understood from Gorbachev that his main concern was that outside forces would try to impose an "artificial" deadline for German reunification.

The President reiterated the

US view that any move toward unity must be based on self-determination of the people of East and West Germany, without outside interference.

He also said unification must be pursued in the context of Germany's continued commitment to NATO and the European community. (Related stories P 7)

## Pan Am: finger pointed at Talb

UPPSALA, Dec 4, (AP): A Swedish court today identified a Palestinian living in Sweden as a suspect in the Pan Am bombing last year and approved the seizure of evidence during a raid on his apartment by Scottish detectives.

The man, Mohammed Abu Talb, was "suspected in Scotland of murder or as an accessory to murder" in the bombing last December of flight 103 that left 270 people dead. The district court used the spelling Mohammed Abu Talb for the man.

The court granted a request by Scottish detectives to authorise the seizure of 15 bags of clothing. It said the clothing taken one week ago from Abu Talb's apartment "can be presumed to carry significance for the investigation" and the seizure was therefore legal.

It was believed to be the first time a suspect has faced a court proceeding for the explosion Dec 21, 1988, of the Pan Am flight over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Abu Talb, 35, was in jail awaiting a verdict on separate charges of murder and attempted murder for complicity in a series of bomb attacks in Scandinavia and the Netherlands in 1985 and 1986. One bomb in Copenhagen killed one person and wounded more than 20.

Abu Talb, a former activist in the Palestine popular struggle front, was linked to flight 103 when it was established that he was in Malta two months before the explosion.

The decision, which was printed and distributed at the courthouse by a clerk, said that any property removed from Sweden must be returned at the end of the investigation.

It also confirmed a previous decision to classify the court records in the case as secret.

Jamila Mograbi, Abu Talb's ex-wife who still lives with him, said the apartment was stripped of clothing for the whole family, filling 15 plastic bags, and she complained that she had to borrow clothes from friends for herself and her two children.

Speaking to reporters on Friday, she said the policemen searching the apartment questioned her for one hour, and that she was called to an Uppsala police station later in the week for further interrogation.

Investigators reportedly traced clothing bought in Malta to the suitcase which they believe also contained the bomb.

The pressure-sensitive bomb apparently went from Malta to Frankfurt, where it was put on board the New York-bound flight 103, which transferred aircraft in London, according to investigators' theory.

Seven Swedish policemen and three Scottish detectives raided Abu Talb's apartment last Monday, apparently searching for clothing that could be linked to the shreds found in Lockerbie.

On Friday, the public prosecutor, acting on behalf of the Scottish detectives, asked the court to sanction the seizure as legal.

Under Swedish law, evidence taken for a police investigation outside Sweden must be authorised by a court. The court also must approve its removal from the country.

## UK deal

### Warner to make movie on Walesa

LONDON, Dec 4, (UPI): Lech Walesa, the leader of Poland's Solidarity Union, will be the subject of a major motion picture by Warner Bros. Inc., the film company announced today.

Warner Bros. said the electrician, who became a household name during the Gdansk shipyard strike in 1980 and a symbol of the move toward democracy in Eastern Europe, agreed to the movie deal during his five-day visit to Britain.

Walesa completed negotiations with Warner Bros. on Saturday morning, delaying his meeting with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who was waiting at Chequers, her official country residence outside London.

Mark Canton, executive Vice President for Warner Bros., said in London the company was proud and delighted to get the rights for Walesa's story.



**Anger still burns**

An effigy of Warren Anderson, former chairman of Union Carbide Corporation being burnt by victims on the fifth anniversary of the Bhopal gas disaster. More than 3,600 people were killed and about 100,000 disabled for life on Dec 3, 1984, when Union Carbide Corporation released a toxic gas from a plant in Bhopal, India. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Singh sparks rays of hope

### Decentralization pledge

(Continued from Page 1)

Lal said in Madras: "The National Front was considering inviting the BJP and other groups to join the government, but the latter had refused."

Singh declared yesterday that "after a long dark night" Indians can expect a government that will assist the nation's poverty-stricken millions, be more accountable, and tame political extremism.

"We have brought to this capital the dust of the fields and plains of India," Singh, 58, said in his first address since taking the oath of office on Saturday. "Millions of homes are without light. The voice of this government will be the voice of this hope."

The softspoken anti-corruption crusader huddled with his advisers to decide on a cabinet to run India's next government, which is already showing signs of having a far more modest style than that under the regal behaviour of his predecessor, Rajiv.

The Sunday Mail reported that Singh's first major decision was to reject the cocon of some 1,500 security men that shielded Rajiv from threats by Sikh Radicals at a cost of Rs 3 billion (\$180 million) a year.

The newspaper said that along with the end of metal detectors, closed circuit cameras and the frisking of anybody wishing to meet the prime minister, Singh has also rejected use of a foreign-made bullet-proof car for his trusty "ambassador."

He also planned to prune to a "bare minimum" the prime minister's office from its current strength of about 180 bureaucrats, it said.

Singh's victory has been viewed with trepidation by many industrialists, who remembered his past zeal as finance minister for staging raids against tax evaders, and are concerned that he may halt the economic liberalizations ushered in by Rajiv.

But a senior official of the National Front, which led the opposition combine that ousted Rajiv, said Singh would opt for continuity, and not -- at least for the time being -- make sweeping policy reversals or purge civil servants known to be close to Rajiv.

"He will not seek to disturb the hornets' nest," the official said. "He was in the government earlier and was renowned for his administrative acumen. I do not think he will go in for any big changes in policy."

Singh, appearing on television dressed in his distinctive fur cap, condemned the conduct of the former Congress (I) Party administration.

"We came after a long dark night," said Singh. "The coffers

of the government are empty. There has been much violence and bloodshed."

India's eighth prime minister said that his government needed for a national endeavour to deal with two radical separatist movements in the northern states of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, and a fierce dispute between Hindus and Muslims over a site both communities claim in northern Uttar Pradesh.

"The nation is not a map on a piece of paper," he said. "If the nation is divided, then the heart of the people is divided. Much blood has been split. It can only be washed through tears of repentance."

Singh, in keeping with campaign promises, pledged to undertake sweeping reforms to ensure that government is decentralized and more development funds reach villages.

He warned of revolution if social and economic justice is not given to the millions of Indians

who live in poverty, and said he would change the constitution to make information more accessible to the people.

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## Bingo Day 7

89 43 32 44

## Chinese Exhibition

at Kuwait International Hotel

Lost 2 days 30/11 - 6/12 10.00 - 10.00 a.m. pm Hurry! Hurry!



New consignment of woollen carpets, wall pictures, cloisonne lamps and clocks, glass flowers have just arrived. More dining table sets and screens have arrived as well. Display and order for last two days.

Come now, don't miss it!

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## Car Rental rates for Europe and U.S.A. are cheaper from Kuwait.



In the U.S.A. Including unlimited mileage Weekly Rates:

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In Europe: All inclusive rates Weekly Rates

• U.K. from KD. 58/-

• France from KD. 94/-

• Germany from KD. 73/-

• Spain from KD. 72/-

• Italy from KD. 89/-

• Sweden from KD. 100/-

• Portugal from KD. 73/-

\* Rates are subject to change accord to exchange rates.

مركز اوت الأوتو



## Surprise visit by Tutu at star gala

WASHINGTON, Dec 4, (UPI): Not much raises eyebrows in the nation's capital, but South African Bishop Desmond Tutu raised several thousand pairs of eyebrows, wild cheers and a standing ovation at Kennedy Centre when he made a surprise visit to pay tribute to singer-actor Harry Belafonte.

Belafonte, actresses Claudette Colbert and Mary Martin, ballerina Alexandra Danilova and composer William Schumann were the 1989 recipients of the 12th annual Kennedy Centre Honours, awarded for outstanding lifetime achievements in the performing arts and impact on American culture.

Past recipients include comedian George Burns, actress Myrna Loy, opera stars Marian Anderson and Leontyne Price, actors Jimmy Stewart and James Cagney, and composers Leonard Bernstein and Aaron Copland.

The finale of the weekend-long celebration, including an afternoon White House reception with First Lady Barbara Bush, was the honours gala performance at Kennedy Centre, featuring speeches and entertainment related to each artist's career.

Belafonte, cited not only for his performing career but also for his work on behalf of UNICEF, the USA for Africa relief project and other causes, appeared as shocked as the rest of the audience — including Mrs. Bush — when master of ceremonies Walter Cronkite introduced Tutu.

"My friends, such as they are, would be happy to know I came 10,000 miles to make a speech of only two to three minutes," said Tutu. "It is a privilege to be part of this tribute to a truly great person."

Remarking that Belafonte, 62, has worked "with constant zeal to end apartheid" Tutu added that should that day arrive, Belafonte would be "one of our most honoured guests at the celebration."

Following Tutu's remarks, students from Eastern High School in Washington and Watkins Mill Elementary School of Gaithersburg, Md., sang an emotional rendition of "We Are the World," the song Belafonte and a number of pop singers released in 1985 to benefit African famine relief.

The gala was marked with several notable tributes to the honourees, including a humorous touch by Martin's son, actor Larry Hagman, best known for his role as the evil JR Ewing on the TV series "Dallas."

"I taught her everything she knows," said Hagman. "Actually, she's very proud to have JR for a son and I'm very proud to have Peter Pan for a mother," referring to Martin's award-winning role.

Gregory Peck spoke glowingly of Colbert's movie career in which she established herself in a number of comedies during the 1930s and '40s, especially "It Happened One Night," which netted Oscars for both Colbert and co-star Clark Gable.

The entertainment ranged from collections of film clips summarising each artist's career to an excerpt from the ballet "Swan Lake" to the US Naval Academy Glee Club serenading Martin, 76, with "There is Nothing Like a Dame" from the musical "South Pacific," in which she starred on Broadway.

Afterwards, the singers walked off the stage and up the aisles, flinging their capstows to Martin, sitting in the presidential box. Martin leaned over the balcony, snagged a cap and it perched on her head for several minutes.

The spirit of Glasnost and some down-to-the-wire planning yielded another extraordinary performance for the final number, performed by the Soviet Army Chorus and dance ensemble.

The ensemble, which had appeared in Detroit earlier that afternoon, gathered onstage for a production number blending both American and Soviet music and dance, culminating in a stirring rendition of "God Bless America," bringing the audience to its feet and joining in song.

## People mag releases best/worst dressed list

NEW YORK, Dec 4, (UPI): When it comes to clothing, rock star Mick Jagger is "cool" but his long-time companion, Jerry Hall, could use a couple of pointers, People magazine says.

Zeroing in on the fashion foibles and triumphs of the nation's celebrities, the magazine yesterday announced its annual list of the best and worst dressed stars.

Topping the list of the best dressed were Prin-

cess Diana, Kevin Costner, John Candy and Jacqueline Onassis, called "the hippest woman ever" by one judge.

Among the others cited for their fashion savvy were Mick Jagger, Angela Lansbury, Madonna, Marlon Brando, Michelle Pfeiffer and Mel Gibson.

The judges called Jagger "cool," Madonna a "great stylist," and Lansbury a "10 out of 10."

With searing comments from its five-person panel of judges, People panned Bruce Springsteen. Kim Basinger, Sean Young and Elizabeth Taylor as the worst dressed.

The magazine also criticised Rod Stewart, Roseanne Barr, Jerry Hall, Geena Davis, Kathleen Sullivan and Prince Andrew for their sense of fashion.

The judges pulled no punches in their evalua-

tions of the worst dressed, noting that Stewart is "always dressed badly," Hall sports the "cockatoo look" and Young is "the scariest woman in fashion."

Gushing with praise for the best dressed, the judges complimented Princess Diana for her sexy legs and Brando for his clothing sense, saying "he's so hip it doesn't matter what he wears, even if it is a parachute."



Hitching a ride

In the small world of garden creatures it seems some are smarter than others as this common snail labours along untroubled by his passenger Dec 3.

Approximately 3-centimetre snails are a common sight in British gardens. (Reuters wirephoto)

### PEOPLE AND PLACES

LONDON: Queen Elizabeth II has named two new members to the Order of Merit, Dame Cécile Saunders, 71, founder of the Hospice Movement in Britain, and professor Sir George Porter, 68, a Nobel chemistry prize winner in 1967.

Dame Cécile, a surgeon, won the US Templeton Prize for progress in religion in 1981 for her work on the care of the dying. She has been chairman of St Christopher's Hospice in south London since 1985.

Porter won his Nobel prize in 1967 jointly with two other scientists for work in photochemistry involving extremely fast chemical reactions. (AP)

HARTFORD, Connecticut: The food company created by actor Paul Newman has been honoured by the state for the money it has raised for charity.

Gov. William A. O'Neill gave the Connecticut governor's Award for responsible social involvement to Westport-based Newman's Own Food. The award recognises outstanding voluntary efforts by Connecticut business and industry to fight community problems. Accepting the award was Ursula Hotchner, executive vice-president of the company. (AP)

NEW YORK: Ivana Trump asserts that her new, younger appearance is due to a change in her makeup and hair, not a face lift.

"No. No plastic surgery," the 39-year-old wife of tycoon Donald Trump told USA Today. "Why? Do I look like I've had plastic surgery?" "Frankly, yes," USA Today wrote, noting that "wrinkles around the eyes and excess chin folds" were apparent in a 1988 photo but not in pictures taken this year. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: Randy Quaid has coaxed in such heavy themes as "A Stranger Named George" and "Of Mice and Men." But the actor says he's made his mark with audiences as the Nerdy Eddie in "National Lampoon's Vacation."

Quaid is back as Eddie, backwoods cousin to the character played by Chevy Chase, in "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation."

"I did the first movie six or seven years ago and I was amazed," Quaid said in a recent interview. "People still come up to me and quote lines from that part. I get a lot of recognition from that role — probably as much, if not more, than any other." (AP)

LAFAYETTE, Louisiana: "I've played God three times, but this is the first time I've played Santa Claus," comedian George Burns told the crowd as he flipped the switch to illuminate a giant Christmas tree.

Wednesday's visit was Burns' first in Lafayette since 1928, when he appeared at the Jefferson Theatre, since torn down. The spot is now occupied by the First National Bank, where the tree stands in the parking lot.

"They must have liked me because 61 years later I'm back again," he said. (AP)

## Disciplined Stones finale

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec 4, (AP): Three weeks before the finale of the Rolling Stones' "Steel Wheels" concert tour, Mick Jagger and Keith Richards are proud of the band's new-found discipline, and its frugal approach to money.

"We've never seen the boys so serious," Richards says. "Everyone is really conserving their energy for the shows instead of like 10 to 15 years ago when we would have, like, been up three or four days in a row. Things change."

Since opening the 60-show North American tour Aug 31 in Philadelphia, the 25-year-old rock band consistently has drawn sellout crowds despite admitted bad acoustics in stadiums such as the Metrodome in Minneapolis.

15 days for violating a Seneca Falls ordinance prohibiting the raising of poultry without a permit.

At her trial last month, Mrs Ashley was ordered by village justice Gordon Teter Jr to remove the chickens within 72 hours. She failed to comply and was arrested and jailed.

Last spring Lynda's husband, David Ashley, brought four chickens home for dinner. His 9-year-old daughter Lesley rescued one — Chester — from the knife. "He was the best looking," Lesley said.

Since then, the family added 17 more chickens to their backyard coop and adjoining exercise yard. (AP)

LAS VEGAS: Rally's hotel officials say they are looking for a replacement act for Frank Sinatra, who surprised the resort by cancelling an upcoming engagement because of a six-month strike by musicians.

The resort said Thursday it is seeking a replacement for Sinatra's Dec 4-9 and Dec 26-31 engagements about performing despite the strike.

"Bally's can no longer rely upon any schedule of performances previously agreed to by Sinatra's representatives," the hotel said. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: Singer Paula Abdul will be singing a few times this Christmas season to help replenish Red Cross coffers depleted by the hurricane Hugo and San Francisco earthquake disasters.

Organizers hope the simultaneous bi-coastal "America has Heart" concerts Dec 17 at the universal city amphitheatre and North Carolina's Charlotte Coliseum will raise \$25 million for the Red Cross disaster relief fund.

Miss Abdul, who recorded the hit "It's Just the Way You Love Me," will be featured in the West Coast arm of the five-hour concert. (AP)

ATLANTA: Miss Manners' next bit of advice to her readers might very well be not to let a miniskirt cost in a chauffeured limousine.

Etiquette columnist Judith Martin, A.K.A. Miss Manners, did just that with her \$15,000 white miniskirt and someone stole it while she was inside a bookstore.

"Miss Manners' Guide for the Turn of the Millennium," she wrote, "The driver had stepped away for a minute and someone broke the windows out," said police officer H.L. Tucker. Other items, including plane tickets, were also taken, with the total loss valued at \$19,000, police said. (AP)

PARIS: Commuters were pleasantly surprised on Wednesday morning to see a huge, colourful fresco decorating the vaulted ceiling of the Chateau d'Astria metro stop.

Stretching the full length of the metro track (75 metres long, 246 feet) and 6.5 metres wide (21 feet), the monumental work tells the life story of the Marquis de Lafayette, the French general who fought beside George Washington in the American revolution.

"This is super," said Liliane Paillet, a subway worker on hand for the inaugural ceremonies.

SENeca FALLS: Lynda Ashley has gone to jail to keep her pets together — Goobette, Bubba Buff, Nippy and the rest of her family's 18 chickens.

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## Oral insulin made possible

LONDON, Dec 4, (Kuna): A breakthrough in the treatment of diabetes was being claimed by a small British pharmaceutical company, Cortec. It was reported here today.

The illness is estimated to affect up to three per cent of the population of many developed countries as well as many others in the Third World.

A company spokesman was quoted by the British media as saying that his firm has found a way of delivering in a tablet or capsule the small amount of

insulin that many people with diabetes need if they are to lead normal lives.

At present insulin can be put into the body only by injection, which is awkward and time-consuming, the Financial Times newspaper reported.

Experts believe that if the new method becomes established, it could have a big impact on the lives of many diabetics and would also greatly boost Cortec, which was formed in 1987 and had sales last year of about £4 million, the paper added.

## Scanner to detect types of cancer

TEL AVIV, Dec 4, (AP): A team of Israeli doctors yesterday unveiled a laser scanner that they said can detect certain types of cancer by examining a blood sample, eliminating the need for surgical tests.

Doctors at Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital, who began testing the device about two weeks ago, said the Cytoscan machine is still in an experimental stage and has an error rate of almost 5 per cent.

But they said the device, which needs only a syringe of blood for analysis, could become part of routine testing for the detection of early signs of cancer.

"It's a great breakthrough that shows promise," Dr Dan Michaeli, director of the Tel Aviv Medical Centre that includes Ichilov, told reporters.

Dr Samario Chaitchik, head of Ichilov's oncology department, said the Cytoscan could become as common "as a microscope in several years."

He added the machine still needs to be made more accurate and quicker.

Chaitchik said the Cytoscan is "too hazardous to use for general screening" because of its error rate. He said he only uses the machine to test recovering cancer patients who are under observation for recurrences of the disease.

"Maybe in the future when we feel more confident we will use it for screening. But this is still far-fetched," Michaeli said. "I don't want the public going crazy lining up outside waiting to have their blood tested."

He said researchers estimate that improved Cytoscan models would be able to test 120 blood samples in one hour, but the machine now used at Ichilov takes four to six hours to scan six samples.

Doctors at Ichilov have tested 700 post-surgery cancer patients with the Cytoscan, which has shown a 95 per cent success rate, according to Michaeli.

An additional 300 student volunteers were tested at Tel Aviv's Bar Ilan University, where the machine was developed, and one error was reported.

Researchers at occupied Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital said results of the Cytoscan's preliminary tests were not published in medical journals, but the tests were based on well-known technologies and showed a significant advancement in cancer research.

Doctors using normal procedures to test for cancer take a tissue sample, called a biopsy, which is then tested by pathologists.

Arye Weinreb, director of the research team that developed the Cytoscan, said testing with the device is far simpler and involves no surgery.

He said a small blood sample is taken from a patient and the lymphocytes, a type of white blood cell that helps fight disease, are separated and placed in the Cytoscan.

The cells are dyed and bombarded with polarized light from a laser.

The Cytoscan's computers track and measure the individual reactions of thousands of different lymphocytes that reveal if the cells have been affected by cancer.



Cytoscan demonstrated

Israeli professor Arye Weinreb demonstrates the cytoscan, an instrument he helped develop for detecting cancer from a patient's blood sample on Dec 3. Developers say the device, in use now in Tel Aviv's Ichilov hospital will be available for widespread use in 1992. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Heart, liver, kidney Triple transplant

PITTSBURGH, Pa, Dec 4, (Reuters): A 26-year-old woman received a heart, a liver and a kidney during a 21-hour operation at Pittsburgh's Presbyterian University Hospital in what was believed to be the first triple transplant of its kind, hospital officials said yesterday.

"The operation was a success. All the organs are working the way they should be at this time," a hospital spokeswoman said shortly after the marathon surgery was completed at 5 pm (2000 GMT) yesterday.

We believe this is the world's first heart, liver and kidney transplant," she added.

A hospital duty officer said the patient, Cindy Martin, of Archbald, Pennsylvania, was in critical condition following the surgery which began at 7:35 pm EST on Saturday (0035 GMT) yesterday.

The procedure involved three different teams of doctors from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, one team for each organ, the hospital spokeswoman said.

The heart transplant was the second for Martin, who suffers from familial cardiomyopathy, a disease that weakens the heart muscle.

Her first transplant three years ago never took hold. She also developed hepatitis and the anti-rejection drug cyclosporine damaged her kidney.

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## Threat to spread Medfly to avenge spraying

LOS ANGELES, Dec 4, (UPI): Police are investigating a claim that a mysterious group is spreading the Mediterranean fruit fly throughout southern California, it was reported today.

In a letter, a copy of which was obtained by the Los Angeles Times, a group calling itself the "Breeders" said it was angered by repeated aerial spraying of pesticide. The group said it "decided to make the Medfly 'problem' unmanageable and aerial spraying politically and financially intolerable."

Authorities have been cautious in assessing the letter, which was addressed to Mayor Tom Bradley,

agricultural officials and the media, and many officials and investigators suspect a hoax, the Times said.

Police Cmdr. William Booth said the two-page, typewritten letter was forwarded to his department from Bradley's office and turned over to the criminal conspiracy section.

"A threatening letter is something we take seriously," Booth said. Even if the claim is a hoax, the writer has committed a misdemeanor by threatening to do something if government officials don't accede to their demands. That is a violation of the law."



## INTERNATIONAL

# Return of Commander Zero

## Cheers as Pastora lambasts both Sandinistas and opposition



Ramirez (right) stands beside revolutionary hero Pastora as he rides in a motorcade through Managua Dec 3. (Reuters wirephoto)

MANAGUA, Dec 4, (AP): The man once known as Commander Zero, who abandoned the Sandinistas for the Contra rebels, returned home yesterday after eight years of exile and condemned both the leftist government and its US-backed opponents.

Eden Pastora said the Social Christians with whom he has aligned himself for Feb 25 elections are the true followers of Nicaraguan nationalist hero Augusto Cesar Sandino.

"We are anti-imperialist with Moscow and we are anti-imperialist with Washington," Pastora told a few hundred people in the Plaza of the Revolution. The smooth, charismatic orator drew cheers as he lambasted both the Sandinistas and the National Opposition Union, a coalition whose 14 member parties range from communists to conservatives.

Pastora scoffed at Sandinista accusations that he betrayed the revolution when he abandoned them to fight in 1983 with the US-backed Contra rebels. He charged the Sandinista commanders are the "true counter-revolutionaries" because their standards of living now are much higher than the great majority of Nicaraguans.

Pastora said that although he respected Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, she did not really lead the National Opposition Union.

He said the coalition included opportunists and those who followed former president Anastasio Somoza, whom Pastora fought 15 years ago as a Sandinista rebel.

Pastora spoke from a wooden platform at the back of the former national palace, now called the Palace of the Heroes of the Revolution.

"I have come to take over the palace that's called Nicaragua," he told the crowd, which cheered wildly at this reference to one of his typically bold exploits.

As Commander Zero, he gained international renown when he led 20 Sandinista rebels in a daring assault on the national palace on Aug 20, 1978.

## Perez party wins polls

CARACAS, Dec 4, (AP): Venezuela's ruling Democratic Action won 13 out of 20 governorships in state and municipal elections marked by massive abstention as voters turned their backs on yesterday's state and municipal races.

Official results were not available early today from yesterday's elections, the first electoral test of the government of President Carlos Andres Perez.

The AD's success, despite widespread unhappiness with Perez economic policies and concern over violent crime, was attributed to better organization, political analysts said.

An austerity programme imposed by Perez lifted price and exchange rate controls and eliminated state subsidies to make the debt-saddled economy more competitive.

Nearly 300 people were killed in nation-wide riots in February, three weeks after Perez took office, to protest against price increases and food shortages.

In addition to the governorships, voters elected 269 mayors and 1,963 local councillors. Results of those elections were not available this morning.

Political parties presiding over the count agreed that the AD had won 13 of 20 governorships. The main opposition Christian Democrats won five governorships, the Socialist Mass Party one, and the left-wing Electoral People's Movement one.

Voting was marked by heavy abstentions in an apparent protest against corruption in Venezuela politics, electoral officials said.

A tribunal last Wednesday issued arrest orders against 10 top government officials from the administration of former president Jaime Lusinchi in a corruption case involving the disappearance of up to \$8 billion in state funds.

One of those charged, former planning minister Modesto Freites, won the AD governorship in central Guaroico state, unofficial results showed.

Freites surrendered to police on Thursday and denied charges of embezzlement of public funds. The whereabouts of the other former officials was not known.

## Fair trial 'difficult'

SAN SALVADOR, Dec 4, (AP): Former US Attorney General Ramsey Clark says it will be difficult for an American church worker accused of hiding weapons for leftist rebel guerrillas to get a fair trial in war-torn El Salvador.

Jennifer Jean Casolo is due to be arraigned today, Clark said, most likely before a military tribunal. He was not sure precisely what charges would be filed.

Clark said: "It would be extremely difficult if not impossible" to ensure a fair trial.

The rightist government has imposed a state of siege that suspends most constitutional rights and the National Assembly has passed a severe new anti-terrorism law. The bill has not yet been signed by President Alfredo Cristiani.

Authorities say they uncovered a huge guerrilla arms stash buried in Casolo's yard, but Clark said the knew nothing about the munitions and explosives.

# Salvador rebels suffer

## Casualties 5,000 in rebel offensive

SAN SALVADOR, Dec 4, (UPI): The Salvadoran armed forces yesterday said nearly 5,000 troops and rebels have been killed or injured since the guerrillas launched their offensive last month.

A Salvadoran armed forces spokesman said that 1,850 guerrillas have died and 1,183 have been wounded since the rebel offensive began on Nov 11. The spokesman reported 457 deaths and 1,341 wounded among military ranks.

"The FMLN has suffered its worst defeat in 10 years of war. The casualty figures tell all," the spokesman said.

But rebels of the leftist Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front,

A Western diplomat told United Press International the offensive had been a victory for the FMLN. "No one thought they could do something of this magnitude. This has been a victory for them," the diplomat said.

In his weekly homily, Salvadoran auxiliary bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez said the Catholic Church's human rights office, Tutela Legal, had counted 160 deaths in the past week among guerrillas, government troops and civilians.

"The Tutela legal office, with very incomplete data, has recorded this week 160 victims of the violence," Rosa Chavez said. He said the Catholic church had also received an increasing number of reports of missing persons and detentions by the Salvadoran security forces.

"The number of families that have visited the Archdiocese to seek out help for a family member that has been arrested or disappeared has been rising," Rosa Chavez said.

The Salvadoran armed forces said 54 civilians have died during the offensive, but calculating the civilian death toll has been difficult task. According to witness reports many bodies have been burned and buried close to the spot where they died.

Several days into the fighting, an employee of the capital's central cemetery morgue told reporters that more than 40 bodies had been sent for burial tagged "identification unknown."

President Alfredo Cristiani said on Friday the offensive, the longest in the country's decade-long bloody civil war, has cost the Salvadoran economy \$85 million in damage.

More than 72,000 people have died in El Salvador's civil war, most of them civilians, thousands of them at the hands of right-wing death squads.

San Salvador Lutheran Bishop Medardo Gomez, who recently fled El Salvador because of death threats, said "the blood" of recent victims of violence in his country "cries out for peace."

Gomez told a standing room only crowd of almost 500 at St John's Cathedral the blood of six Jesuit priests, their cook and her daughter murdered on Nov 16 by men in military uniforms "cries out for peace. The eight were dragged from their home and slain in an area under government military control."

"We should gather all our strength and efforts in the name of the blood spilled in El Salvador... for the blood of our Jesuits who were killed. It is blood that cries out, that begs for peace," Gomez said through an interpreter.

A correspondent for the largest Spanish radio network in the United States has been missing in battle-torn El Salvador for five days, but network officials said they held out hope he would arrive by air in Houston.

Interior Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds, responding to questions about a media report that the group would declare a unilateral truce today to support a proposal for a referendum on the extradition of alleged drug traffickers, told reporters Bogota would not accept a truce.



Army checking

A Salvadoran soldier checks the papers of people who were riding a mini-bus as his colleague examines the underside of the bus at an army check point in San Salvador. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Sicily cracks down on mafia

## Informer sings

PALERMO, Sicily, Dec 4, (UPI): Police today launched a major crackdown on mafia suspects in Palermo, Rome and Naples, acting on information provided by a "penitent" mafia figure who could be the most important to turn state's evidence in recent years.

The state-run television network said police have arrested 14 suspects, 11 in Palermo, two in Naples and one in Rome.

But under the legal reforms introduced in Italy recently, information provided by mafia figures who turn state's evidence must be treated with considerable caution, police officials told a news conference at Palermo headquarters.

Because of this, while the informer gave top Palermo anti-mafia investigator Giovanni Falcone the names of some 100 suspects, the number of arrests was limited in comparison with the police swoops that followed the revelations of other "penitents" such as former Palermo mafia boss Tommaso Buscetta in 1984.

Instead the police swoop in the three cities concentrated mainly on searches of suspect homes and hangouts, with some suspects being taken into preventive custody and others warned formally that they are under investigation.

Police identified the new informer as Francesco Marino Man-

noia, 37, who until his arrest in 1985 operated as a "chemist," refining heroin and other drugs for one of the top Palermo mafia "families."

They said that the special value of Marino Mannoia is that he was connected with the gangs centred on the hill town of Corleone, near Palermo, which emerged as "winners" from a murderous gang war in the early 1980s.

Buscetta and the other 20-odd mafia informers who since 1984 have defied the mafia law of "Omertà" (silence) to turn state's evidence, were all from "losing" gangs, police said.

Following his arrest in 1985, Marino Mannoia was sentenced to 17 years jail for various mafia crimes in the first "maxi-trial" of hundreds of mafia suspects held in Palermo.

While in Rome's Regina Coeli jail Sept 23 he told police he wanted to turn state's evidence. Police said he made the decision mainly because the mafia murdered his brother Agostino, 46, shortly after Agostino visited him April 12 in Palermo's Ucciardone prison, where Francesco was formerly held.

On Nov 23 the Palermo mafia wreaked a terrible vengeance on Marino Mannoia, apparently after learning he had turned informer.

"The government cannot have a truce with the criminals," Lemos Simmonds said at Bogota's military airport where President Virgilio Barco left for a state visit to Japan. "The day it does, it will cease to be a government."

Saturday's edition of El Tiempo newspaper, citing a television report, quoted Norberto Morales Ballesteros, president of the Colombian House of Representatives, as saying the Extraditables group would begin their truce today to support a congressional move to include the extradition issue in a referendum next month.

# Illegal jail case inquiry begins

LONDON, Dec 4, (Reuters): A judicial inquiry began today into why British justice was slow to prosecute a man who was held in a prison for 15 years in the Irish Republican Army bombings they did not commit.

Former appeal court judge Sir John May told the opening session his inquiry into the case of the so-called Guildford Four had no powers of prosecution but "criticisms will inevitably be levelled at individuals and organisations."

"This is an inquiry to discover the true circumstances leading to the convictions... and to discover why nearly 15 years passed before those convictions were finally quashed," he added.

The three Irishmen and an Englishwoman were convicted in 1975 of killing seven people in explosions in bars in Guildford, southwest of London, and in Woolwich, a suburb of the capital.

In one of the most remarkable reversals in English legal history, British Chief Justice Lord Lane threw out their convictions two months ago after a state prosecutor said police apparently had framed them.

A separate criminal investigation is under way into the conduct of five police officers involved in the case which rocked Britain during an IRA bombing campaign against British rule in Northern Ireland.

An appeal court in 1977 upheld the convictions against the four despite admissions of guilt from an acknowledged group of IRA guerrillas arrested on other bomb charges.

May said the inquiry would examine Britain's appeal court system and the government's powers of referral of suspect convictions back to the judiciary.

The four were convicted on the basis of confessions but insisted at their trials the admissions were beaten out of them.

May pledged evidence given by witnesses would not be used in any related criminal prosecutions against them and said he expected his final report would not be issued before 1991.

Paul Hill, one of the four, told reporters: "I have very little faith in justice. I spent 15 years in jail for a crime I didn't commit."

The Extraditables, often identified with the Medellin drug cartel, is blamed by authorities for more than 232 bombings and 29 assassinations which followed its declaration of "total war" against the Colombian establishment on August 24.

It was responding to Barco's reinstitution of extradition procedures as the government began its latest anti-narcotics offensive on August 18.

US officials say the wealthy and powerful drug lords deeply fear extradition. Nine lower level drug suspects have been sent to the United States for trial since September.



The SR-71 Blackbird reconnaissance jet in flight. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Bye-bye 'Blackbird'

## US retires spy plane

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): The United States has decided to retire the secrecy-shrouded SR-71 "Blackbird" reconnaissance aircraft, the superstar of winged espionage.

Funding to phase out the jet black, slightly sinister-looking spy plane was contained in a \$236 billion 1990 defence spending bill that cut Pentagon purchasing power for the fifth straight year.

President George Bush signed the bill into law on November 21, spending the end of an aircraft said by the Pentagon to be "the fastest and most accurate reconnaissance aircraft in the world."

Blackbird proponents, including the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the Senate Armed Services Committee, had fought to continue full funding for the programme, reportedly at the urging of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Senator John Glenn, a Democrat who sits on both panels, said a SR-71's death would put the United States "at a serious disadvantage in future crisis situations."

"It is still the finest system of its type anywhere in the world today," he told the Senate. Glenn and others pointed out that unlike satellites, aircraft can be scrambled quickly to cover fast-breaking events at short notice.

Jeffrey Richelson, a space reconnaissance expert at the private National Security Archives, said the Blackbird also was good insurance against satellite failures.

After launch problems starting in 1985 hobbled the US spy satellite network, the SR-71 provided a "crucial backup" until the space programme was back in business, he said.

William Burrows, a specialist on space espionage, said about 1,000 attempts had been made to shoot down the aircraft, most of them during the Vietnam war, to no avail.

"If I were king, I'd chop half of 'Star Wars' (the fledgling missile defence programme) and keep the SR-71," he said.

Since entering service in 1966, SR-71s are reported to have flown thousands of missions from bases in California, Britain, Japan and

Cyprus without a single loss to hostile action.

Until now, they have routinely skirted the borders of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe as well as overflying Nicaragua, Cuba, Libya, Vietnam, North Korea and the Middle East, according to space reconnaissance experts.

In November 1978 then president Jimmy Carter ordered an SR-71 mission over Cuba to help determine whether recently arrived Soviet MiG-25 fighters had a nuclear capability. They did not.

The world may see another casualty of the Blackbird demise as the United States has a policy of never releasing pictures from its military satellites.

Paul Stares, an expert on military space systems at the Brookings Institution, said that as a result of this policy it was likely that published overflight pictures used by the United States came from the SR-71.

This would include shots of Soviet military installations in Vietnam and Cuba as well as military facilities in Nicaragua and Libya's Benina airfield after it was attacked by US bombers in April 1986.

The SR-71, built by the Lockheed Corp, streaks at more than three times the speed of sound at altitudes above 24,000 metres (80,000 feet). At those speeds, it can survey more than 160,000 km (100,000 miles) of the Earth's surface in an hour.

Nicknamed for its sooty-looking, heat-resistant titanium skin, the twin-engine Blackbird carries no armament but an array of interchangeable sensors. It defends itself with speed and sophisticated electronic countermeasures designed to fool enemy radar.

A variety of sensors can be placed in its nose or underbelly, depending on the mission. Its cameras can produce narrow field shots of such quality that photo-interpreters can pick out objects as small as a 23 cm (nine-inch) licence plate, according to Richelson.

Another option is high-resolution "side-looking" radar, which processes radar signals to produce images in any weather, day or night.

The number of SR-71s built remains a closely guarded secret, but experts believe it was between 30 and 35. The air force said details of the programme will remain classified even after it is terminated.

The final disposition of the remaining SR-71s has not been decided, but they are likely to become museum pieces of put on display as "gate guards" outside air forces bases, Cole, the service spokesman, said.

# Record marijuana haul

TOKYO, Dec 4, (UPI): Japanese national police today reported the biggest seizure of marijuana ever in the country — a total of 385 pounds (\$175 kgs) with an estimated street value of \$7 million — along with the arrests of 10 people.

A police spokesman said the influx of marijuana into Japan has been on the rise in recent years because "more people are going abroad and experiencing the smoking of marijuana."

Police said Japan's notorious "Yakuza" (Japanese gangsters) also have been expanding their illicit business from hard drugs to marijuana.

Japanese laws against possession of marijuana are among the most stringent in the world, with penalties ranging to five years in prison.

Police said the biggest haul of marijuana in Japanese history began in September with the seizure of 48.5 pounds of marijuana, believed to have originated in South Asia.

Late last month, authorities confiscated another 59.5 pounds of the contraband in the same operation. Police said the marijuana was found hidden in three cardboard boxes which had been sent by a gangster group to a transport company.

The four were convicted on the basis of confessions but insisted at their trials the admissions were beaten out of them.

May pledged evidence given by witnesses would not be used in any related criminal prosecutions against them and said he expected his final report would not be issued before 1991.

Paul Hill, one of the four, told reporters: "I have very little faith in justice. I spent 15 years in jail for a crime I didn't commit."

The Extraditables, often identified with the Medellin drug cartel, is blamed by authorities for more than 232 bombings and 29 assassinations which followed its declaration of "total war" against the Colombian establishment on August 24.

It was responding to Barco's reinstitution of extradition procedures as the government began its latest anti-narcotics offensive on August 18.

US officials say the wealthy and powerful drug lords deeply fear extradition. Nine lower level drug suspects have been sent to the United States for trial since September.

# Security lacking

WASHINGTON, Dec 4, (AP): A secret inspection of a US nuclear weapons laboratory this year found security lapses that could have allowed theft of enough plutonium to make a bomb, according to a congressional report released yesterday.

The report also said the US Energy Department from 1982 through 1988 misled the President, in its annual reports to the White House, about the adequacy of measures to protect weapons-grade nuclear materials from potential theft or sabotage.

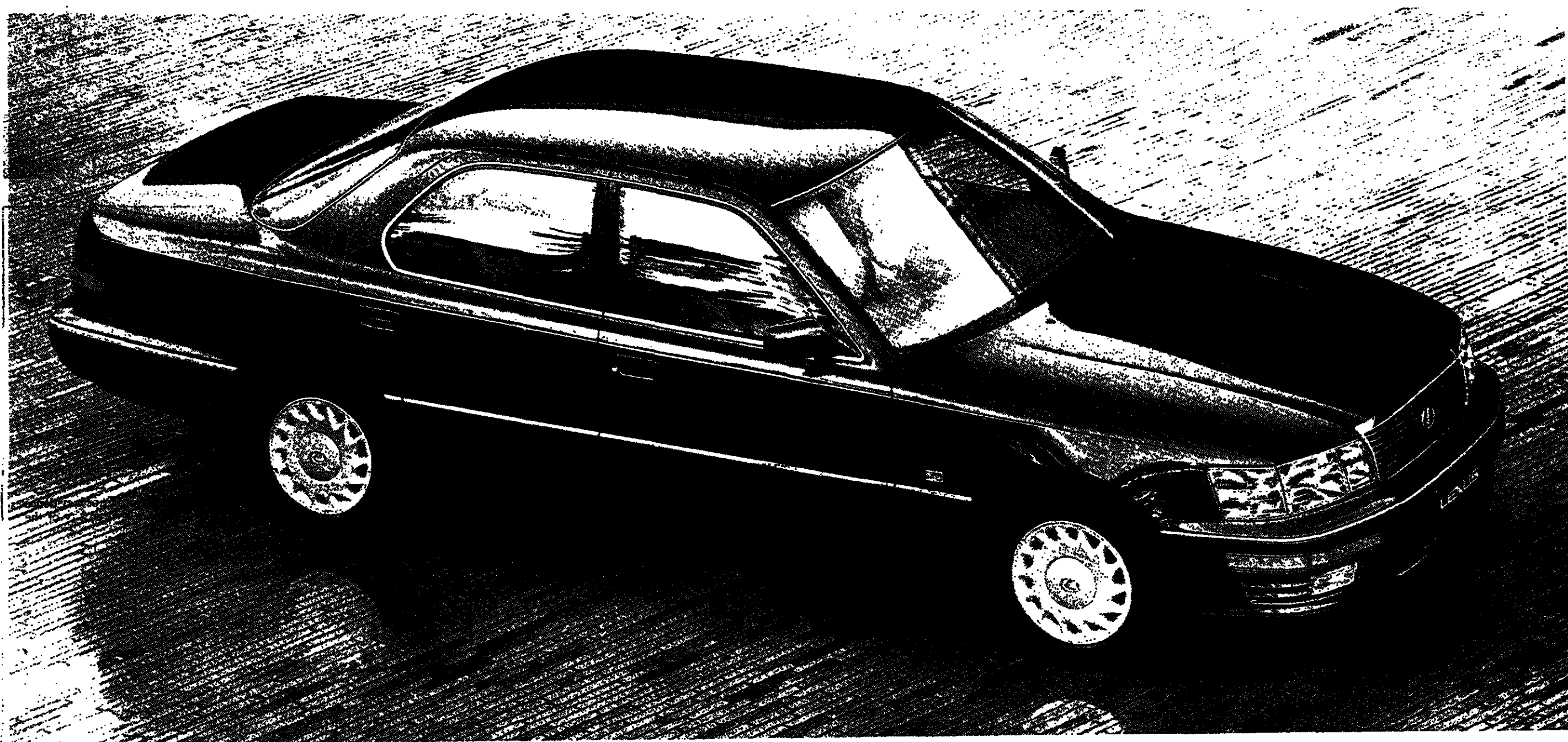
The report included in a declassified transcript of a closed hearing last July in which several senior Energy Department officials testified on weaknesses in the country's nuclear weapons production and design complex.

The department's nuclear weapons facilities in recent months have been wracked by allegations of health, safety and environmental violations. Some key plants have been closed temporarily.

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## Hearing

A South African police board began disciplinary hearings yesterday into alleged misconduct by rebel coloured (mixed race) Lieutenant Gregory Rockman.

Rockman, who publicly condemned riot squad methods in September, faces 10 charges ranging from illegal use of a police vehicle to insubordination and failure to obey written orders from a general.

"I know it is a foregone conclusion that they will convict me," Rockman said at the Cape Town offices of his three-man legal team.

"They have set their target on me and they're going for me. It just remains to be seen what they have up their sleeves for me," he said.

Essa Moosa, one of his lawyers, said the police board could recommend penalties ranging from a reprimand to dismissal if Rockman was found guilty of the charges. Picture shows Rockman (right) talking with his attorney. (Reuters wirephoto)

## More hit men face arrest in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG, Dec 4, (AP): More arrests are imminent as police pursue an investigation of charges that a right-wing death squad, perhaps with ties to the government, targeted left-wing activists, law and order Minister Adriaan Vlok said today.

Vlok said police had made several breakthroughs in their investigation of at least two political assassinations. He gave no details, and appealed to the media to withhold any information that might jeopardise the probe.

## No clues

"These crimes are being committed by a person or persons who leave no clues, and police need all possible help," he said.

Vlok later joined the rest of the cabinet for an usual two-day work session at a rural retreat. The agenda reportedly included the death squad controversy, the possible release of jailed black leader Nelson Mandela, and possible revisions of remaining segregation laws.

Two former policemen are being held for questioning in connection with the cases cited by Vlok — the assassinations of white activists David Webster of Johannesburg and Anton Lubowski of Windhoek, Namibia.

Webster was a university lecturer and human rights advocate who had investigated the existence of death squads. Lubowski was the only white official of the South-West Africa People's Organisation, the main independence movement in the South African territory of Namibia.

Both were shot dead outside their homes — Webster on May 1 and Lubowski on Sept 12.

Ferdinand Barnard, a former detective convicted in 1984 of murdering two drug suspects, has been held five weeks in connection with the killings.

**Detained**  
A second ex-policeman, Calla Botha, was detained more recently. Botha, a well-known rugby player, was a member of the Brixton murder and robbery squad, the unit that is investigating the assassinations.

Botha's lawyers said their client was a friend of Barnard but had no knowledge of any assassination. The lawyers also said Barnard claimed he had acted under orders from the military intelligence branch of the armed forces. However, military headquarters said today that Barnard had never been employed by the armed forces.

Military headquarters confirmed that a defector who surfaced last week in the Netherlands, Mervyn Malan, was in fact a former corporal in an army special forces unit, as he had claimed. Gen. Jannie Geldenhuys, the armed forces chief, also confirmed that Malan fought in Angola but said his claims that his unit had committed atrocities against civilians were "unsubstantiated."

The arrests in the Webster-Lubowski cases were reported at a time when the government was assessing allegations about other death squads within the ranks of the national police force.

## Melee during trial of dissident Im and Moon

SEOUL, Dec 4, (AP): The trial of two dissidents who illegally visited communist North Korea erupted in a melee today. Spectators shouted anti-government slogans, suffled with guards and showered the defendants with confetti and paper airplanes.

About 50 people were expelled from a Seoul district courthouse for their part in the disruption.

Radical student leader Im Su-Kyong and a dissident Catholic priest, the Rev. Moon Gyu-Hyon, stood impassively as guards forced screaming supporters, friends and relatives out of the courtroom.

"Repeal National Security Law," protesters shouted, raising clenched fists, as they were taken away. Some protesters traded punches with guards as they were hauled from the courtroom kicking and screaming.

Confusion erupted as soon as the two defendants were led into the courtroom for the third day of hearings in their trial. Some 200 supporters, many of them students, shouted slogans demanding their release.

Senior Judge Hwang Sang-Hyon immediately adjourned the hearing and ordered about 40 people expelled. About 10 more people were ordered out when they protested, shouting slogans and insults.

A summary court later sentenced three of those expelled to 20 days' detention, court officials said.

Outside the courthouse in southern Seoul, police arrested 21 people, most of them college students, for either demonstrating in support of the two dissidents or trying to carry confetti into the courtroom. All of them later were released.

During today's hearing, Miss Im denied prosecution charges that she acted on North Korean orders to travel to Pyongyang and make speeches critical of the Seoul government.

"I clearly deny that I acted on orders from North Korea. I also did not call South Korea an anti-unification force or a fascist regime," she said.

In a separate trial today, a Seoul criminal court sentenced dissident Catholic Priest Nam Kuk-Hyon to two years in prison, suspended for three years, for playing a leading role in sending fellow priest Moon to North Korea in July.

Nam, 40, told the court that the group's decision to send Moon to Pyongyang was made for religious reasons to help Miss Im, a Catholic.

## Protesters end siege of Taipei govt office

## Nationalists accused of rigging ballots

TAIPEI, Dec 4, (AP): About 10,000 protesters ended a 30-hour siege of a government office today after an opposition candidate filed a complaint accusing the ruling Nationalist Party of rigging ballots.

In central Taiwan, Kuo Chi-Yu, an election official for the ruling Nationalist Party, and his wife died as fire broke out from their house. News reports, quoting unnamed sources, said the fire was suspicious and probably was related to Saturday's election.

Share prices fell 265.43 points, or 2.97 per cent, today in reaction to the nationalist setback in the first multiparty election in Taiwan's history. Brokers attributed the drop to uncertainty over Taiwan's

political future.

Candidates for the Nationalist Party, which has ruled Taiwan for 40 years, suffered their worst setback ever, winning 58 per cent of the vote. A 2-year-old opposition group, the Democratic Progressive Party, garnered 33 per cent and independents got the remainder. In 1986 elections, the nationalists won 70 per cent while independent candidates, then barred by law from forming parties, won 22 per cent.

The voting was for seats in Taiwan's legislature, and local government posts.

## Free political debate in Taiwan

## Dissident's widow wins

TAIPEI, Dec 4, (AP): A frail widow whose dissident husband immolated himself to escape police interrogation has won an important race in Taiwan's first multi-party election ever.

Saturday, Yeh Chu-Lan won a parliament seat representing the capital, Taipei, after defying arrest with a campaign advocating abandoning the dream of recovering the communist mainland. Prosecutors are already investigating the campaign.

Advocating that Taiwan's course be independent from that of the mainland is a seditious act under the constitution of a country whose dominant party holds out the hope of someday ruling all of China.

Both Taipei and Beijing governments claim to be the legitimate ruler of all China. Beijing has warned it could attack if Taiwan declares independence.

Ms Yeh's victory highlights the increasing free political debate on this island of 20 million, one of the economic powerhouses of Asia.

Ms Yeh's husband burned himself to death in April after showering his body with gasoline in his Taipei office. Police wanted to question Cheng Nan-Jung because he advocated Taiwan's independence.

The suicide galvanised Ms Yeh, who said she never cared much about politics before.

Dressed only in black except for white jogging shoes, she launched a campaign. Ms Yeh ran both as a member of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party and as the leader of the "New Country Alliance," a group of pro-independence radicals.

In all, 20 of the 32 "New Country Alliance" members won seats.

Ms Yeh gave speeches only in Taiwanese, a language spoken by the natives of this island who make up 85 per cent of the population. The Taiwanese were displaced politically when the nationalist party fled to the island after losing a civil war to communists on the mainland in 1949.



## Police, protesters clash

Several radical opponents of a planned airport expansion hurled firebombs and stones today at riot police trying to remove a hut built illegally at Tokyo's international airport, police said.

Police fought back with water cannon, but there were no reports of injuries, said an official of the Chiba prefectural police, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The official said Masaaki Komurasaki, a 27-year-old member of the Senku-Ha (Snake Flag) radical leftist group, was arrested for allegedly constructing a tower, several metres (yards) high, three weeks ago. Police said the group began levelling ground in the area with several bulldozers and backhoes, the official said.

Local farmers and their supporters have been resisting the government's plans to expropriate farmland to expand the \$2.5 billion airport, which opened in 1978 with just one runway. Picture shows a radical anti-airport protester with a lighted petrol bomb. (Reuters wirephoto)

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## 1 dead, 8 hurt in Natal unrest

JOHANNESBURG, Dec 4, (AP): A black man was killed and at least 13 people, including eight policemen and a Parliament member, were hurt when officers clashed with hundreds of blacks trying to attend a protest meeting, police said today.

Constables were pelted with stones and responded by using stun grenades, guns firing rubber bullets and tear gas, police headquarters said.

The clash occurred yesterday in Edendale, near the Natal province capital of Pietermaritzburg, after more than 2,000 blacks gathered to attend an anti-government meeting.

Authorities had refused to allow the meeting to be held at a stadium. It was relocated to a meeting hall that could accommodate only about 1,000 people. Police said members of the crowd that could not get inside became disorderly and began stoning officers and their vehicles. The police report did not specify how the death occurred.

## South Africa suspends aid to presidential guard in wake of Comoros coup

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Dec 4, (AP): South Africa announced today it has suspended aid to the presidential guard of the Comoros republic, following reports the guard has taken power in the vacuum left by the assassination of the President.

South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha said all co-operation with the government of the Indian Ocean archipelago and unspecified "assistance to the presidential guard" had been suspended.

The decision was made, he said, "in light of the tragic events which led to the assassination of" the

President. The government-run South African Broadcasting Corp. reported that French and South African diplomats met yesterday in Moroni to discuss ways to oust Bob Denard, the French mercenary who led two coups in the island nation in the 1970s.

According to reports last week from the capital of the Islamic republic, Moroni, the presidential guard, headed by Denard, has disarmed the police and army. Various diplomatic sources have accused Denard of either directing or carrying out the assassination.

The vote-rigging protest began in Tainan, in southern Taiwan, on Saturday night when opposition supporters surrounded the county government office and demanded election results for the county executive race.

Angry protesters broke into the office and smashed windows and furniture after election committee officials failed to report the results six hours after polling stations closed.

Lee Tsung-Fan, the opposition Democratic Progressive Party candidate for the county executive post, claimed the count was delayed while Nationalist Party workers rigged the vote for nationalist candidate Lee Ya-Chiao.

About 1,000 riot policemen, backed by water cannon trucks guarded the building during the standoff.

Before dawn yesterday, the nationalist candidate was declared the winner. Protesters detained an election committee official and demanded a recount.

Today, Lu Hsiu-Lian, the president of an independent watchdog agency, the Clean Election Alliance, called the vote counting "shoddy."

She said election workers reported results by telephone and did not provide written proof of the balloting.

Candidate Lee Tsung-Fan filed his complaint with the Tainan county district court, which has said it will investigate. Lee said that according to his tally, he won the race.

Opposition party officials have claimed there were more votes cast than there were registered voters in Tainan county.

The deputy secretary general of the Democratic Progressive Party, Tsai Shi-Yuan, said vote-rigging occurred in 21 of 33 villages checked in the county.

Meanwhile, Nationalist Party chief James Soong acknowledged his party's defeat in the island-wide voting.

"We lost the election, and we accepted the defeat the democratic way," Soong said. "We still win the support of the people because we are determined to move toward democracy."

Another development was the relatively free debate in the campaign. A former dancer ran on a platform of free love, but she lost.

Others openly risked charges of sedition with calls for Taiwan to declare itself independent from China and abandon the dream of recovering the mainland. At least 20 of 32 candidates of a pro-independence group won seats in various contests.

Taiwan's rapid economic growth in the 1970s created an increasingly sophisticated population which chafed at laws imposing jail sentences on men and women who speak their minds.

More than a decade after the 1975 death of iron-fisted President Chiang Kai-Shek, the nationalist began experimenting with reform. Martial law was lifted in 1987 after 38 years; limited press freedoms were granted; other political parties were legalized.

But many said reforms came too slowly.



## Support for democracy

Czech students wear 'democracy' headbands as they hold a solidarity march on Sunday in support of the Chinese pro-democracy movement which was

crushed six months ago. A new Czech government was announced on Sunday which includes only five non-communist members from a total of 21 posts.



Col. Gen. Vacek: new defence minister



Bohumil Urban points as he announces the formation of Czechoslovakia's new government. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Quit: Czechs ask

200,000 rally against govt

PRAGUE, Dec 4, (Agencies): More than 200,000 people rallied today in protest of the new communist-dominated coalition government, calling for its resignation and demanding a new cabinet by Sunday.

Waving red, white and blue national flags and chanting "resign, resign," the crowd applauded opposition calls for a general strike Dec 11 if there is no new government within six days.

An unidentified worker who also demanded replacement of leaders of the official trade union received strong shouts of support.

A chorus of boos and derisive whistles greeted any mention of the old Communist Party leadership, whose announcement yesterday of a new communist-dominated cabinet failed to meet opposition demands.

The new 21-member cabinet contained only five non-communists, and communists retained all the key ministries.

## Successful

Today's protest was the first in Prague since Civic Forum, the largest opposition movement, staged a successful general strike a week ago. The following on Tuesday, Premier Ladislav Adamcuk agreed to relinquish the communists' 41-year monopoly on power.

"We want a happy Christmas, Christmas with a new government," read a poster plastered near Civic Forum's Prague headquarters today. "An old play with a new cast," warned another poster on the same window, referring to the communist-

dominated government.

The turnout at today's rally in freezing temperatures was a clear signal to the government that the opposition can still draw popular support to back its demands for democracy.

"Long live Havel," and "Long live Forum," cried the crowd in welcome to playwright Vaclav Havel, the country's most prominent dissident.

The vast crowd at the rally, reported live on state radio and television, was estimated by state radio at 200,000. Western reporters put the figure around 150,000.

"We feel disappointed and cheated," said Michal Sedlacek, a representative of striking students who decided today to prolong their two-week sit-in at campuses across the country to protest the new cabinet.

Director Miroslav Machovec declared: "The leading role has been abolished in the constitution but with this government it exists again." He said artists, theatres and galleries would strike until Dec 11.

## Forced

Two weeks of mass protests have forced the communists to give up their guaranteed monopoly on power and to make other concessions, including the promise of free elections.

Vaclav Malý, a spokesman for Civic Forum, announced that the opposition hoped to field its own candidates in the elections. "Thanks for your help and support," Malý shouted to the crowd. "We need it now more than ever."

"That's it, that's it," the crowd chanted back in a roaring show of support for Civic Forum, and its counterpart in Slovakia, public against violence.

Civic Forum also wants the democratic rights of assembly, association and a free press anchored in the law.

One of the major concessions made last week by the communist government was the lifting of virtually all restrictions on travel abroad as of Monday.

Czechoslovaks were still required, however, to have a visa from most Western countries they wish to visit, with only Austria lifting visa requirements.

By midday, border guards reported a steady stream of cars passing the border, but no queues or jamming of the crossings. Most Czechoslovaks have no access to hard currency and, unlike neighbouring East Germans, receive no "welcome money" upon arrival in neighbouring West Germany.

Earlier today, representatives of an estimated 80,000 students on strike nationwide for the past two weeks decided to press on with their sit-ins at campuses across the country.

The new cabinet had a majority of holdovers from the former hard-line government and appeared an attempt by the ruling communists to buy time to get control of the reform movement.

The opposition was especially angered by the appointment of a military man rather than a civilian as defence minister, and a communist, instead of someone from outside the party, as interior minister.

## My Nobel cash is for poor: Lama

OSLO, Dec 4, (Reuters): The Dalai Lama said yesterday he would use the money from the 1989 Nobel peace prize, which he is due to collect in Oslo next week, to help alleviate world hunger, fund peace studies and promote forgiveness in Tibet.

The exiled Tibetan spiritual leader will receive the award worth \$455,000, at a ceremony here on Dec 10 despite denunciations by Beijing, which rules his homeland.

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INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1989

## Kremlin for talks on one Germany

MOSCOW, Dec 4, (Reuters): The Kremlin today signalled a new willingness to talk about the possibility of eventual German reunification.

In a preview of this week's visit to Moscow by West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the official Tass news agency said:

"Regardless of the acuteness of this problem, the USSR is prepared to discuss it in the spirit of new thinking, giving due respect to the position and interest of the opposite side."

It added: "There is every reason to believe that the Moscow visit of Hans-Dietrich Genscher will serve the further development of mutual understanding between both countries in the construction of the 'common European home'."

The Tass report suggested a new willingness by the Kremlin to talk about the possibility of German reunification. In the past Moscow has opposed putting the issue on the agenda of talks with the West, saying the post-war reality of two German states must be respected.

Analysts said the change in tone could reflect a desire by the Kremlin to keep its options open as the speed of change in East Germany surpasses all expectations.

In the past, Soviet statements on German reunification have been almost exclusively negative. However President Mikhail Gorbachev recently has appeared not to rule it out in the long run.

Tass noted that Gorbachev, at a news conference during his visit to Italy last week, said history would decide whether Germany would be reunified but that the issue should not be pushed or forced.

Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, in remarks to his Italian counterpart Gianni De Michelis two days earlier, took the traditional Soviet approach to the subject, stressing that post-war frontiers in Europe must be respected.

Vitaly Zhirinov, director of the Soviet European Institute, was more positive about reunification at a news conference in Malta during the weekend super-power meeting.

He said an all-European summit which Moscow wants held as early as next year should avoid 'destabilising' talk of German reunification because it could have a negative effect on the reform process under way in Eastern Europe.

US President George Bush said today that West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl appeared "comfortable" with the American insistence that any moves to German reunification follow a gradual process.

He said he understood from Gorbachev at their summit meeting over the weekend that his main concern was that outside forces would try to impose an "artificial" deadline for German reunification.

At a news conference following a summit briefing with the leaders of the 15 other members of Nato, Bush reiterated the four-point US position on reunification.

● It must be pursued based on self-determination of the people of East and West Germany, without anyone trying to dictate in advance what form unification would take.

● Unification must be pursued in the context of Germany's continued commitment to Nato and the European Community.

● Moves to unification should be "peaceful, gradual, and part of a step-by-step process."

● The Helsinki accord respecting the borders in Europe should be observed, and changes should be made only peacefully.

"I think Chancellor Kohl feels comfortable with the four things I just said," Bush added.

Government and Lutheran church officials will take a poll to measure public sentiment about German reunification during tonight's pro-democracy protest in Leipzig, the official East German news agency ADN said.

The last two Monday night protests in Leipzig were dominated by calls for German unity, although many opposition leaders remain against the idea.



Bush greets Helmut Kohl before they met for dinner. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Demand for referendum

GDR reds face break-up

EAST BERLIN, Dec 4, (Agencies): Reformist Premier Hans Modrow emerged today as the new face of power in East Germany and was immediately confronted with opposition demands for a referendum on German reunification and elections.

Communists warned today that their embattled party faced growing risk of breakup, following yesterday's resignation of party chief Egon Krenz, his 10-man ruling politburo and the 163-member policy-making central committee.

A 25-member provisional committee was named to try to salvage the party's eroding authority, but opposition leaders charged today that the government had "lost all legitimacy."

New Forum, the country's largest opposition group which counts more than 200,000 members, today called on the government to prepare a law that would allow for quick free elections. Before yesterday's resignations, free elections were not expected before late next year.

The opposition group also urged a national referendum to decide on German reunification. There have been growing popular calls for reunification in both West and East Germany, though many New Forum leaders have cautioned against such suggestions in the past.

A statement signed by New Forum leaders Claus Gerd Scheide and Christiane Paetzold said the long-term possibility of one German state within present borders of the two countries was "no longer an unthinkable utopia."

The statement said a unified German state should come after the East and West pull out of the rival Nato and Warsaw Pact military alliances.

Leaders of both alliances were meeting today to review results of the weekend summit meeting between US President George Bush and Soviet President Mik-

hail Gorbachev.

The official East German news agency ADN reported that Modrow was heading to the Moscow meeting to inform the Soviets about the upheaval in East Germany. He also was assigned to deal with any "party questions" that may arise during the Warsaw Pact meeting.

That, and his position as head of government, made it clear that the 61-year-old reformer from Dresden was in charge in East Germany.

Modrow was attending the Moscow summit along with Foreign Minister Oscar Fischer and Krenz, who was there in the largely ceremonial role of head of state.

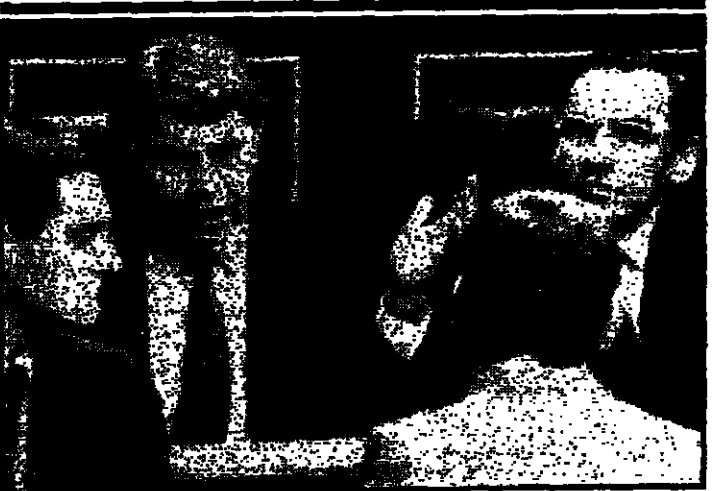
In West Germany, Rudolf Seiters, the chief of staff in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's office, said he planned to meet with Modrow during a visit to East Berlin this week. Seiters told West Germany's Ard television the East German Communist Party was "in a deep crisis over its existence."

New Forum spokesman Rolf Henrich called Modrow's cabinet an "emergency government" whose only goal must be to prepare for quick free elections. He told West Germany's Norddeutsche Rundfunk radio station that the political leadership had "lost all legitimacy."

In recent days, the communists have been warning against the risk of a split in the party.

"There must be a decisive effort against the breakup of the Communist Party," the official party organ Neues Deutschland said today. "That would throw overboard the lessons of the past and jeopardise the existence of socialism in the German Democratic Republic."

French President Francois Mitterrand will go ahead with a visit to East Berlin this month despite the latest upheavals in East Germany, his spokesman said.



'What can I do?'

Parliament yesterday held its most confusing opening session since Spain's return to democracy in 1977. The nagging problem of Basque separatism and procedural controversies overshadowed parliamentary debate.

Socialist Felipe Gonzalez, expected to be chosen prime minister today for his third straight four-year term, outlined his party's programme to a reduced Lower House where the Socialists hold a one-seat majority pending the outcome of repeat elections in Murcia and Pontevedra.

At the start of his one-hour speech, Gonzalez told the Lower House he would seek a parliamentary vote of confidence after voters in the two provinces return to the polls. Court rulings last week annulled the results of the Oct 29 general elections there and invalidated the election of 17 deputies. Picture shows Gonzalez gestures as Basque parliamentarian Jon Idigoras (back to camera) complains after being expelled from Parliament. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Extreme rightist's victory in polls disturbs president of French Parliament

PARIS, Dec 4, (AP): A rightist candidate who campaigned on an anti-immigration platform was elected yesterday to Parliament, a victory that the president of the National Assembly today called "very alarming."

Marie-France Stirbois, who took 61.3 per cent of the vote for the National Assembly seat from Dreux, said she intended to use her position to "resist the invaders."

Her victory means the extreme right will hold one seat in the 571-member National Assembly, recapturing the place it lost in 1988.

"The campaign continues," said Mrs Stirbois, the 46-year-old widow of the late secretary general of the National Front, the extreme right party to which she also belongs. "It is no longer an electoral campaign, but a fight for the future of France."

Mrs Stirbois beat an opponent from the Neo-Gaullist rally for the republic in the special election runoff.

In recent elections, the National Front has won nine to 14.5 per cent of the vote.

National Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen said her showing was a victory for the party's position on

# Bush, Gorby plan Nato -Warsaw Pact summit

Accord on non-nuclear forces likely by mid-next year

BRUSSELS, Dec 4, (AP): US President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev want to hold a summit of 23 nations from East and West if agreement can be reached on a conventional arms treaty, Dutch Foreign Minister Hans Van den Broek said today.

Van den Broek said Bush told Nato leaders meeting in Brussels that he and Gorbachev agreed during their weekend Malta summit "to propose to their allies... a meeting of government leaders at the signing of an agreement on conventional disarmament."

The 16 Nato and seven Warsaw Pact nations are now negotiating cuts in conventional forces in Europe. Bush said he hoped an accord on the non-nuclear forces could be reached around the middle of next year. Van den Broek told reporters.

Bush briefed allied leaders on his weekend summit talks with Gorbachev and assured them the US commitment to the Nato alliance is unwavering despite dramatic changes in East-West relations, sources said.

White House Chief of Staff John Sununu said Western leaders were "very strong in their compliments" about the way Bush conducted the Malta summit, but stressed their desire to be included in any superpower deals affecting Europe.

"The president made it clear to them that it is not the United States' intention to disengage from Europe," Sununu said in a television interview from Nato headquarters with US network CBS.

A British source said on condition of not being identified that Bush's report was "extremely well-received."

The official said the Nato session revealed "very strong support for the Nato alliance."

A Belgian source said on condition of not being identified that in the first of two sessions today, Bush described his eight hours of talks with Gorbachev over two days on a ship off Malta as "productive."

The source said Bush described Gorbachev as resolute and confident, but also said the Soviet leader's denial that his country supplied arms used by leftist rebels in El Salvador was "out of step with the new thinking" in Moscow. The Belgian source also said Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti briefed the allies during recent meetings with Gorbachev. Mulroney said Gorbachev "needs help, but he cannot openly ask for it," the Belgian source said.

The Canadian prime minister also quoted Gorbachev as saying the Soviet federation must remain and any outside pressure to dismantle the Soviet state would be considered a hostile act, the source said.

Andreotti said the west should economically assist newly emerging democracies in Eastern Europe, the source said.

Nato Secretary-General Manfred Woerner called today for a new European order "as he opened President Bush's briefing of his allies on his weekend summit with Gorbachev."

"These consultations are the lifeblood of this alliance, for they are the prerequisite of the solidarity of all allies," Woerner said. "On this basis we can make still more progress in decisively reshaping both Europe and East-West relations with the necessary prudence but also with the necessary imagination."

The opening of the 16-country meeting was delayed 25 minutes by the late arrival of French President Francois Mitterrand.

It was the first time in the 40-year history of the alliance that leaders met twice in one year.



Thatcher and Bush talk with delegates attending a special meeting of Nato. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Summit results

VALLETTA, Dec 4, (Reuters): US President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev discussed a wide range of issues at their first summit. Here is an at-a-glance picture of points they chose to outline:

● US-Soviet relations: Both hailed new era of co-operation rather than competition between superpowers and stressed they had established good working relationships.

● Arms control: Agreed to pursue Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty slashing arsenals of inter-continental nuclear weapons by about half in time for a summit in United States next June.

● Naval disarmament: Bush rejected a Soviet proposal to add naval forces to the agenda of Vienna talks on cutting conventional forces in Europe.

● Chemical weapons: Gorbachev said they made some progress on chemical weapons disarmament treaty.

● Central America: Bush said they had narrowed differences. He complained arms were still reaching leftist insurgents fighting US-backed government in El Salvador but accepted Gorbachev's assurance Moscow was no longer sending weapons. Bush suggested the Sandinista government in Nicaragua was not being truthful with Moscow about sending arms to El Salvador.

● Eastern Europe: They agreed liberal reforms under way in Eastern Europe were dramatic and evolutionary change. Both made plain they did not want see changes spin out of control and destabilise all of Europe.

## New era of East-West trust

## Nato members lobby for naval control

BRUSSELS, Dec 4, (Reuters): The United States may have spurned Soviet proposals on naval arms control at the Malta summit but some Nato members are already lobbying for a more flexible position in a new era of East-West trust.

Seapower is the Western alliance's Atlantic lifeline, linking North America with its European allies. It is also the only area of military might left untouched in arms talks.

US President George Bush brushed aside suggestions by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Malta that the two sides

should discuss the issue. "We still have differences — he knows it, and I know it — on naval arms control... we had no agreement at all on that particular question," Bush said.

But Nato diplomats and arms control experts believe that such an uncompromising position may not be tenable much longer.

"There is a growing feeling among some of the allies that we should start discussing confidence-building measures at sea, if not naval arms control," said one diplomat.

A recent report by the North Atlantic Assembly, which

groups parliamentarians from alliance countries, said Norway, Iceland and Turkey favoured some measures covering naval forces. Belgium is also thought to be in favour.

Diplomats say there is no suggestion that warships and submarines patrolling the world's oceans should be brought into current arms talks.

"What we want are separate confidence-building measures, like more warning of exercises, some disclosure of the strength and whereabouts of naval forces and so on," said one diplomat.

responsible for our social deficit, the poverty of the French," Le Pen said in the interview. Immigrants make up about 7 per cent of France's 55 million people.

Laurent Fabius, the socialist president of the National Assembly, said Mrs Stirbois' overwhelming victory was "a very alarming evolution" in French politics.

In two other special elections, the National Front lost a second bid for a parliamentary seat, but won a place on a regional council.

## East Bloc denounces

Czech invasion

MOSCOW, Dec 4, (Agencies): The Soviet Union joined other members of the Warsaw Pact today in denouncing the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia, east European sources said.

It was the first time Moscow had formally changed its attitude to the crushing of the "Prague Spring" reforms, regarded as similar to Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika programme to transform Soviet society.

The sources said the denunciation was included in a short declaration issued at the end of a meeting in Moscow of Warsaw Pact leaders at which Gorbachev briefed his allies on his talks off Malta with US President George Bush at the weekend.

"The declaration condemned the invasion and interference," one source told Reuters. "It was signed by all participants."

The Soviet Union was the last member of the alliance to denounce the invasion.

Poland and Hungary criticised the action after the introduction there of multi-party systems this year. Other member countries followed suit in the last few weeks of turmoil in eastern Europe.

Romania had denounced the invasion from the outset and refused to take part in it.

The declaration, later reported by the official Tass news agency, said the invasion represented "interference in the affairs of sovereign Czechoslovakia and must be condemned."

"Interrupting the process of democratic renewal in Czechoslovakia, these illegal acts had long-term negative consequences," said the declaration, issued in the names of all pact member states except Romania and Czechoslovakia.

A statement by the Soviet government, read during the evening television news, described the invasion as "groundless."

Gorbachev had hinted during his visit to Italy last week that a formal change in Kremlin policy was forthcoming, suggesting that Moscow's policy to the "Prague Spring" was "not quite appropriate."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told reporters in Italy that a joint Soviet-Czechoslovak commission could be set up to reassess the events of 1968.

Czechoslovak Prime Minister Ladislav Adamec said last week

that he would recommend the renegotiation of the deployment of some 75,000 Soviet troops in the country.

The East European sources said the Warsaw Pact declaration had been proposed at the meeting by Gorbachev and approved unanimously.

Warsaw Pact leaders, including the East Bloc's first non-communist government head, met earlier today in Moscow to hear Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev report on his talks with US President George Bush.

In a brief dispatch, the official Tass news agency listed only heads of delegations attending the session, including Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski and East German President Egon Krenz.

Krenz resigned as East Germany's Communist Party chief yesterday along with the rest of the politburo.

Tass did not mention the arrival of Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the first non-communist leader of an East Bloc government. The Polish government press office said Mazowiecki would be attending the meeting with Jaruzelski.

Mazowiecki is the first non-communist to attend a Warsaw Pact meeting since the alliance was formed in 1955 in response to the formation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

His attendance illustrated the radical changes that have swept Eastern Europe in recent months.

In an interview broadcast today by Soviet television, Gorbachev said his two days of meetings with Bush in Malta had given a boost to work on major arms control accords.

"The dialogue actually surpassed my expectations," Gorbachev said. "This meeting created good preconditions for reaching concrete results," the Soviet leader said, referring to possible agreements on strategic, conventional and chemical weapons.

In East Berlin, the ADN news agency said Krenz, who retained his position as East German head of state following his resignation as Communist Party leader, had flown to Moscow to attend the meeting.

Tass announced earlier that Western journalists would not be accredited for the Warsaw Pact summit and would have to depend on state-run Soviet media for reports.

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# KES study aims at ending housing problem

## Less dependence on government urged

THE Kuwait Engineers Society has called for according housing and related service projects top priority at ministries and relevant government agencies. This will be particularly reflected in relation to required financial allocation and for all-owing specialised agencies to contribute to the urban development over the areas allocated for this purpose.

This came in a study prepared by the society which contained a number of recommendations aiming to put an end to the escalation of the housing problem. Further, it recommends the establishment of a unified official agency to handle the housing service in a move designed to reduce the decision-making agencies for the housing sector to one.

The study reviewed the housing problem in the country pointing out that there were 27,000 housing applications on the waiting list of the Housing Ministry up to June 1982 in addition to 18,000 submitted by the limited-income and 19,000 by the medium-income.

The study commented on the waiting period stressing the need to cut short this period. Seven years is needed to provide houses for the medium income, and up to 11 years to provide houses for the limited income. The study also underlined the poor designs and unsuitability of the specifications of houses provided by the National Housing Authority in line with the wishes of citizens.

**Problems**  
The study said that these factors led to the high cost of independent houses and consequently caused increasing numbers of citizens, including the financially able, to rely on the facilities provided by the government, and that the majority of applications for houses were not urgent. All these factors contributed to the housing problem, the study indicated.

The study revealed that the existing housing difficulties are the result of the reliance by increasing numbers of citizens on government provided houses, which had become not only responsible for the

provision of housing care, but also of customised houses.

The study underlined a number of options which could be used to deal with the housing problem, among which is the unification of all agencies in charge of handling the housing problem under the umbrella of one agency to reduce the decision-makers in his sphere and follow the latest administrative techniques for providing the housing care services.

Other options called for according housing projects top priority at ministries and government authorities entrusted with the housing sector requirements, including the provision of needed financial allocations, whereby the projects and all related requirements would be looked at as an integral whole by a central housing authority.

### Options

More options were urged for setting up specialised units at the service ministries, such as the Public Works, Electricity and Water, Communications, Social Affairs

and Labour and Kuwait Municipality and entrusting these units with the responsibilities of following up the housing projects and all related matters. Additionally it is recommended to develop the working policies of the Credit and Savings Banks so that it would be able to provide better investment services of the citizens' money, and then to re-use it to fund the housing requirements and lessen dependence on the government.

The study required more involvement of the private sector in the provision of the housing care services, and the assignment of special contractors to undertake construction of a uniform pattern of houses and at the same time design houses according to the number of family members projected.

Other proposals by the study were the re-arrangement of the priorities for people requiring government houses and the definition of the roles that must be played by the private and co-operative sectors in housing services development.

# Retirement age may be raised

## Workers' health insurance proposed

THE increase in financial emoluments paid to pensioners recently has come about through the initiative of HH the Amir of Kuwait and is a gesture that has been hailed as both humanitarian and wise by all sectors of society.

A number of citizens interviewed by a local daily expressed their sincere thanks to HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier for their constant care and follow up towards the welfare of citizens. The citizens also praised the high standard of services extended by Kuwait's Public Institution for Social Security (Piss) and its efforts towards surmounting bureaucracy and red tape.

Meanwhile, the daily interviewed Hamad Mishari Al Humaidhi, deputy director-general of Piss who indicated that the Amir's gesture will cover about 15,000 children. The total amount would be in the vicinity of KD5.5 million and would be allocated from the state's public budget. This amount of extra funding is an additional obligation that is not included in the current charter of the Piss.

### System

Speaking of the early retirement phenomenon prevailing in the country, the official said that the institution is striving

to handle the negative aspects — both from the social and economic standpoints. The institution is considering several proposals in this connection and will soon decide to select a system that has proved to be the most successful in several countries. Elucidating on the modalities of the systems the official said that in some countries the retirement age is fixed at 65 years and in some others at 60, while in quite a few instances, the retirement age has also been defined as 55 years of age.

### Study

The comprehensive study undertaken had been submitted to the board of directors of the institution since the beginning of 1989. However, as the topic was of vital importance it needed to be scrutinised in detail due to its long-term results.

Quered as to the most appropriate age for retirement, the official said that in view of Kuwait's social, economic and related background, the retirement age should not be less than 50 years of age. He disclosed that the relevant proposal to make the retirement age 55 will be discussed also by the institution's board of directors. The "thinking of the institution" is very closely connected with the

general policy of the state and the social circumstances of the country, the official added.

Replying to a question on the institution's decision to institute a new security system to cover casualties that occur during work hours, the official said that this aspect is being considered by officials on the lines of linking such security with health insurance. However, he said that these are only tentative proposals and no firm decision has been taken.

### Experts

On the social security system to be designed for expatriates working in Kuwait, the official said a preliminary study had previously been undertaken. However, this issue is connected mainly with the state's policy and it would not be proper to comment specifically on this issue, he said.

However, the official disclosed that there is a joint study on social security which constitutes a guidance system for the GCC member states. This will be considered as a basis for collective unification for the relevant legislation. Consequently, in case the collective guidance system has been endorsed by all member states, a unified social security system covering all GCC citizens will be adopted.

## Municipality to organise camping plan

TO meet requirements of the camping season that is to begin this month and end next April, Kuwait Municipality is gearing to meet with officials of some ministries, Naser Al Ayar, director of public relations at the municipality said.

The municipality is engaged in a co-operative effort with some ministries to plan organisational strategy, security, health and cultural programme and plans to streamline activities of the camping season.

As a priority, the cleanliness department has arranged specialised vehicles to collect garbage from the camps. To enhance cleanliness, specialised inspectors will conduct inspection of the areas of camps.

Representatives of the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health and Environment Protection Council as well as the municipality will work at the centres in different areas to serve campers.

Cultural seminars and lectures will be carried out for campers during the seasons to enlighten them about the importance of keeping camps clean.

The officials called on citizens to obtain the appropriate licences for their camps and to avail of the information as to how the camps should be operational.

He said that citizens who want to build sheds in their camps should pay an insurance amount of KD100. This insurance is taken to ensure that campers will remove these sheds after the ends of the camping season.

The officials called on all citizens to locate their camps at a distance from military and oil installations and not to destroy plants and soil.

## Drug arrest

KUWAIT, Dec 4, (Kuna): The Capital Governorate's Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has arrested four Kuwaitis for smuggling and consuming drugs (heroin), an Interior Ministry release said yesterday.

It added that needles and other equipment used by consumers were seized with the four Kuwaitis named as Ahmad, Hamoud, Abdullah and Walid.

The release concluded that the suspects and the seized material were referred to the concerned authorities.



DGCA chief receives UK envoy

The Director General of Civil Aviation Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Abdullah Al Ahmad Al Sabah received at his office yesterday the British Ambassador to Kuwait Peter Hinchcliffe. They discussed bilateral relations and ways to develop air transportation between Kuwait and UK.

## Allergies in Kuwait

# Pollution, cosmetics aiding rapid spread

By Hassan Al Shemari

THE rapid spread of allergic diseases in Kuwait and the increasing number of allergic patients are attributed to the rapid increase in the use of agricultural areas, atmospheric and environmental pollution, diverse use of cosmetics, according to a senior official at the Allergy Diseases Centre.

Commenting on this issue, Diyauddin Mohammed, director of the Allergy Diseases Centre said that the centre was established to combat allergies caused by these changes.

Speaking to a local daily, the official indicated that the number of allergy cases are constantly on the increase. Citing statistics, the official said that there were 57,190 allergy cases in 1988, 25,030 related to females and 32,160 to males.

Explaining the organisational services of the Allergy Diseases Centre, the official said that the centre has four outside clinics to receive allergy cases with a staff of 13 doctors. Five members of the staff are Kuwaitis who are entrusted with the management of some sections and others occupy head section posts at the centre. The head pharmacist is also a Kuwaiti.

### Technicians

The official, however, complained that officials at the centre face many problems — mainly represented in the shortage of laboratory technicians and nurses. On the other hand, the centre faces problems with patients who do not comply with doctors' appointments, thus causing confusion in introducing services and hampering the smooth efficiency of the centre's organisational capabilities.

The centre consultant, Khaddar Al-Khaddar, stressed that allergies could infect all body organs. He indicated that nose, nasal sinuses, skin, eyes and asthma allergies are most common in Kuwait.

He stated that various allergies are seasonal and are increasing due to the spread of factors that assist the cause of infections. He pointed out that another main factor was the increase in population. The number of allergy cases drops during the summer season due to the fact that many people are outside the country.

Kazemi said that the centre is fully equipped with all diagnostic and treatment facilities adding that all allergy cases received by the centre are diagnosed and treated. The Ministry of Public Health forms a committee on a yearly basis to look into allergy cases which require treatment outside the country.

The centre has an internal section which includes 14 beds, eight for women and six for men. Cases received by the centre are divided into five categories namely, patients who take cortisone on a regular basis, patients who have regular visits to the centre, patients who are unable to stop treatment, cases in which patients are subjected to sudden allergies when administering shots or specific medicines, and patients who have the ability to develop allergy symptoms when taking a vaccination.

A total of 275 patients were admitted into the internal section of the centre in 1988.

Doctors at the centre regularly organise special symposium and awareness programmes to enhance residents' knowledge on allergy diseases and protection methods.

## KAC plan to expand network in S.E. Asia

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 4, (Kuna): Kuwait Airways Chairman and Managing Director Ahmad Al Mishari today announced plans to expand the national carrier's flight network and operations in the Southeast Asian region to cover Singapore, Indonesia and Australia.

"We are now actively negotiating with the respective parties and hope to complete negotiations within six months from now."

"And we hope within two years from now our expansion programme in this part of the world will materialise," he told Kuna soon after officially opening the new branch office of the Kuwait Airways for Malaysia here.

Mishari with 39-member delegation arrived here in the Kuwait Airways inaugural flight to Malaysia yesterday to witness the signing of a commercial agreement between the airline and the Malaysian Airlines (MAS) held earlier today.

Isolation Operations Division will be based with Malaysian transport minister Dr Ling Liong Sik tomorrow.

Mishari said the joint service agreement between Malaysia and Kuwait is part of the Kuwait Airways expansion programme in the region.

He said at present Kuwait Airways operations in Southeast Asia contributed about 3.0 per cent to annual sales, adding: "This will be gradually increased as we have signed a commercial agreement on sale of seats with MAS."

Mishari also said Kuwait Airways was also studying the possibilities of buying more latest model aircraft as the airlines wanted to replace its existing four Boeing 747-200 jumbo jets with the latest Boeing 747-400.

## Annual budget allocated for schools

THE assistant undersecretary for private education at the Ministry of Education Dr Yaqoob Al Sharrar has said that the ministry paid considerable attention to scholastic activities, being a central pillar to the educational process, in a bid to continually develop related programmes which help develop students' cultural, intellectual and social characters.

He told a local daily that the ministry allocated an annual budget for the private education schools to encourage students with outstanding performance both financially and academically.

He pointed out that the programmes so far implemented or to be implemented this year included scheduled scientific visits and two religious symposia.

The holding of cultural and scientific symposia on different occasions and preparation for the celebration of the Kuwait National Day are also part of the efforts undertaken by the department and supported by the ministry, the official said.

He added that the department played a supervisory role over the private education sector, and was the agency in charge of following up technical, financial and administrative matters within the ministry's educational policy.

The curricular programmes at Arabic private education schools are similar to those of the public education curricula.

## Slimming leads to anaemia: nutritionist

By Lima Al Khalafawi  
Arab Times staff

HOW to obtain optimum levels of iron from food and diet is a common public health problem, according to Luisa Fantini, manager of nutrition and education at the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation.

Talking to newsmen on the issue yesterday, Fantini said that iron deficiency in the body leads to anaemia and recommended a diet of a balanced meal which provides iron with less fat. She said that it is vital to eat nutritious food that contains more vitamins, iron, but less fat. She stressed that people who are on diet should eat meat without fat, avoid fat in butter and oil so as to lose calories.

Fantini disclosed that women are more liable to be anaemic than men because they prefer to be slim and added that chronic anaemia in children also has its impact on their growth. She advocated exercise for those women who prefer to remain in shape.

She said that people have to be educated about nutritious food and advocated undertaking awareness campaigns presented by nutritionists with the co-operation of health authorities.

Precisely for this reason, Fantini is now in Kuwait participating in the 8th seminar on anaemia and will be lecturing on "Iron Bio-availability" the effect of iron type on meal composition.

The Nutrition and Catering Department at the Ministry of Public Health meanwhile continued its 8th scientific nutritional symposium organised under the title "Anaemia, prevention and cure."

Dr Theodore of the Amiri Hospital delivered a lecture in which he said that 120,000 persons suffered from iron deficiency in Kuwait. According to WHO estimates about 10 per cent of the total world popula-



Fantini... balanced diet

tion suffered from the same symptoms.

He stressed the importance of iron as a basic health element and stated that anaemia is much more common in the developing countries. However, he commented that anaemia is common to persons of all ages.

He then defined the daily iron requirements for healthy bodies which varied from one person to another for reasons of age and sex. The official said that the following factors partly contributed to anaemia: hemorrhage, unbalanced diet, defective assimilation. A balanced diet contained 10 to 20 mg iron or equivalent to 6 mg iron for each 1,000 calories, he added.

Meanwhile, a study prepared by the Nutrition Unit at the Public Health Department at the ministry examined 1,584 pregnant Arab women in Kuwait.

The results showed that 39.4 per cent pregnant expatriates were anaemic, compared with 36.3 per cent among Kuwaitis and 43.9 per cent among other nationalities, indicating a high percentage of haemoglobin among Arab women at a percentage of 11.1 gm, and 11.4 gm, among Kuwaitis, with the general average being 11.2 gms.

## University to revise structure Mahmoud

By Faisal Maqsood

IN a determined bid to develop and enhance the administrative branch, Kuwait University is undertaking a comprehensive revision of its structure and charter. Dr Hussein Al Mahmoud, secretary-general at the university, said yesterday that the university has established a technical department entitled the Research Development and Follow Up Department which is under the jurisdiction of the secretary-general. This department will develop the structure and systems of administration at the university to improve the professional performance.

According to sources, the university has made several changes in senior posts during the last three years by appointing new directors for finance, engineering, cultural relations and housing departments.

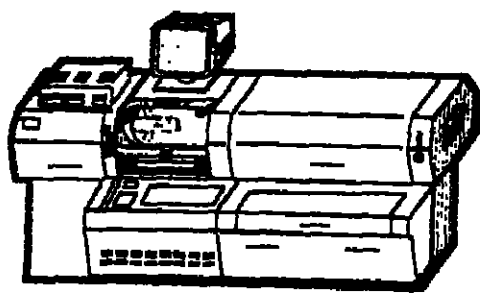
### Training

Mahmoud said that the university offers good training opportunities for Kuwaiti employees and all leading administrative posts are occupied by Kuwaitis.

Studies undertaken by the university on utilities indicate that they serve about 40,000 students in different faculties. Accordingly, the administration has formulated a new strategy based on two projects. The first is temporarily to develop and modernise present utilities to take 20,000 students. The second is to carry out a new university city project with a capacity of 20,000 students. The majors that will be taught at the new university will be determined in the light of needs of development plans for the state.

## ARAB TIMES

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Dior artist at work

The art of makeup for Carlos Villalon is a veritable philosophy of beauty and colours. For him it means the language of life. Villalon the technical executive of Parfums Christian Dior presented his subtle demonstration of makeup Sunday at a local hotel.

His technique lies with defined touches for each woman to reveal her personality.

The simple technique he performs, creates awareness and highlights a woman's striking features.

Villalon's experience as an actor and painter served him well in his profession. He joined the Societe des Parfums Christian Dior in 1983. Picture shows, Villalon exhibiting his artistic style.



Salem receives Capital council

Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah received at his office yesterday chairman and members of the Governorate Council of the Capital.



# Computers facilitate services at Interior Ministry

## National cadres trained at centre

By Sayed Usman

THE Ministry of Interior's computer centre is focusing every effort to utilise latest technology of computers to facilitate the work procedures in different fields of services, a senior official said.

Fahad Jaafar, director of the computer centre said that the centre has developed several projects and systems by incorporating the latest state-of-the-art technology like systems of administrative and financial information, system of security service and others.

It is the intention of the computer centre

to provide support to departments of the ministry in preserving their records, controlling budgets and in-house accounting, offering different data and statistics for planning and follow up procedures, including a host of other services and actual user provisions, the official said.

The ministry offers computer facilities to speed up the formalities of citizens at the General Traffic Administration, nationality certificate and passport formalities, residence permits, visit visas, police information, storage of fingerprints and a host of other services.

Nationality files computer system is one

of the vital systems which is the main base of data for citizens. This system provides all requirements of the General Administration of Nationality and Passports about information of files of Kuwaiti citizens.

### Plans

The centre offers communication and control among operation rooms. The centre also prepares plans of civil defence to be stored in computers. The criminal record system compiled by the centre aims at offering data and information to the CID, General Investigation Department and the General Administration of Execution of Sentences and Trials. All court decisions

are stored in the system.

Jaafar pointed out that the centre does its best to attract and employ national cadres and specialists as well as train them. The coming five-year plan of the centre has ambitious plans in this respect, the official said.

It is imperative that due to the increase in the number of services and projects of the centre, additional qualified Kuwaiti cadres will be needed, the official said. National cadres who join work at the centre are imparted both local and foreign training and have every opportunity to join the police academy.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Premier receives

KUWAIT, Dec 4, (Kuna): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah today received in audience Interior and Defence Ministers Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Salem and Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Jaber.

HH Sheikh Saad also received board chairman of the United Company for Agricultural Production Mohammad Youssef Al Roumi, member of the Housing Supreme Council Hamid Abdul Salam Shoaib, member of Hawali Governorate Council Abdulhamid Dashti and member of the Petroleum Supreme Council Dr Rashid Al Ameri.

HH also received Khatib Mayor Menahi Al Oatimi, Fahd Al-Jabbri, Khalid's Mayor Youssef Salem Al Hsanan, Fahd's Mayor Abdul Latif Yaqoob Al Taher, Chairman and Deputy of the Charitable Committee for the Support of Palestine and Lebanon Ahmad Abdul Aziz Al Falah and Meshal Modhi Nassar Al Khakhi, and soccer player Abdullah Boloshi on the occasion of his retirement from the game.

### Hawalli council

KUWAIT, Dec 4, (Kuna): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber today received Hawalli Governor Abdul Latif Al Barges and governorate council members on the occasion of their appointment.

Sheikh Sabah also received Director General and Permanent Member of Public Authority for South and Arabian Gulf Ahmad Al Saqaf, Chief Editor of Al Arabi Magazine Dr Mohammad Ghanim Al Romailhi and Mubarak Al Daboos.

### Information meeting

KUWAIT, Dec 4, (Kuna): Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Hamed today received at his office chairman and members of the board of Kuwait News Agency (Kuna).

Sheikh Jaber spoke with the new board on policies which should be followed by Kuna to achieve its ambitions in providing the media with news that would serve just issues and attract the support of international public opinion.

The minister praised the great steps that have been realised by Kuna during its short years. He stressed on necessity of honesty in analysing and reporting news while underlining Kuna's role in providing the entire world with news on Kuwait and its achievements.

Kuna's new board of directors is comprised of Dr Abdul Aziz Al Mansour, Fahd Suliman Al Dowaini and Khaled Suliman Al Jar Allah, in addition to Chairman and General Director Barges Al Barges and Deputy General Director Ahmad Dashti.

### Volunteer exhibit

KUWAIT, Dec 4, (Kuna): The third volunteer work exhibition will be opened here tomorrow afternoon at the Kuwait Teachers Society.

The exhibition will be held under the patronage of Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmad Al Sabah on the occasion of the International Voluntary Day which was endorsed by the Cabinet, which agreed to make December 5 of each year an international day for volunteers to promote economic and social development.

This day was decided by the UN General Assembly's 40th session.

Charity societies will participate in this exhibition, which will be held from December 5 until 8.

☆ بارے کے قریب ہرگز نہیں آئے  
☆ کے لئے وہی نظم اور دست نام کر  
☆ ایک نظم کی ہر خط اور دو ہر خط کے  
☆ ساتھ 25 x 50 کے خطی خطوط  
☆ مفت حاصل کریں۔

☆ جو سوسائٹی کے سربراہ ہیں



Salem receives US delegation

Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah yesterday received at his office an American delegation representing the Foreign Relations Committee in the Congress led by Michael Van Duech. Cordial talks were exchanged covering issues of mutual concern. US Ambassador to Kuwait W. Nathaniel Howell was also present.

# Paaet to complement university: Muhailan

## Rivalry allegations unfounded

STATEMENTS to the effect that the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Paaet) constitutes a rival to the Kuwait University (KU) are unfounded, a senior official said.

Dr Abdullah Al Muhailan, director-general of Paaet was quoted as saying that the establishment of the Ministry of Higher Education has been designed to push forward the educational process in the country and to co-ordinate the efforts between the university and Paaet.

The official praised the support given to the authority by the government in general and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister in particular. "This support will encourage the authority to spare no efforts towards preparing the Kuwaiti citizen to shoulder his responsibilities through the co-operation of the authority and the university," the official said.

He went on to state that the authority had been designed to achieve specific goals and was connected directly with the country's technical requirements. The university will remain the tribute of the country which all of us are proud of, he said.

Protocol He disclosed that there is continued co-ordination between the authority and the university and the director-general of the authority is a member of the university's board. He hinted that a protocol is likely to be concluded between the university and the authority for organising co-operative aspects between the two educational institutions. The protocol is basically intended to avoid any duplication and overlapping between the university and the authority.

Muhailan said that Kuwaitis are quite capable of demonstrating their capabilities as was witnessed in the recent success achieved by the international conference on the continued education and training which was held in Kuwait recently.

Speaking to a local daily, Muhailan said that the Kuwaiti delegation to the conference was distinguished in their debates of the problems and obstacles facing the continued education and training in Kuwait. The eventual relevant recommendations amply testify to this reality, the official said.

### Resolutions

Muhailan disclosed that a working team had been formed to follow up the implementation of the conference's resolutions and the ongoing discussion of the possibility of gaining benefits from the experiences of those who participated in the conference with the objective of upgrading the continued education and training process. The authority will do its utmost to surmount any obstacle that could impede the said process, the official added.

In conclusion, the official said that the authority contemplates adopting an integral structure for applied education and training. This step has been designed to keep abreast with HH the Amir's desire to achieve a qualitative transition at all the state's institutions by the beginning of 1990's and will translate the desire of HH the Crown Prince and Premier toward the enhancement of technology studies.

Muhailan, praised the role of the Higher Education Minister, Dr Ali Al Shamlan who has demonstrated a great understanding towards the role of authority in the field of education.

# Arabsat operation efficient: Ibrahim

THE director of the International Telecommunications Department at the Ministry of Communications Adel Al Ibrahim has said that the problems which beset Arabsat has not affected its operational efficiency. He disclosed that some friendly countries have offered to rent some channels, thereby demonstrating their trust in the Arab Organisation for Communications by Satellites.

He told a local daily that the organisation was operating satisfactorily and providing TV transmission services. It still enjoys a high level of reliability among beneficiaries.

Insuring the Arabsat project was called for as a result of the high-risks involved, and it followed the occurrence of a series of problems which necessitated the claim for compensation.

Despite all the problems, this did not affect the high performance and efficiency of the Arab organisation which continued to operate satisfactorily and within the limits officially approved.

Launching of a third satellite involved pure technical calculations and factors pertaining to operational requirements and the age-limit of the satellite, the official said.

He added that the operational age of the satellite was determined by the amount of fuel it contained, and that manufactured Arab satellites were designed to operate for seven years during which they would consume their fuel and be set on their original course when they deviate.

A number of studies were made to discover the effects of leaving the deviant satellite free without adjusting their orbits, with intention of expanding the operational age of the satellite. The results were successful from the conceptual viewpoint which led some countries to implement this theory.

A number of friendly countries had requested to use Arabsat such as India, Pakistan, Turkey and Mali and the requests were considered from a technical view. The entire issue remains to be settled by the board of directors and general assembly of Arabsat.

It is a necessary standard procedure to place another satellite in orbit and prepare a third stand-by ready for launching on the ground to meet emergency situations, the official said.

# Debt issue primary challenge to Arabs

## Revise development methods: Zaki

ARAB indebtedness will constitute the major challenge to Arab debtor countries during the 1990s, according to Dr Ramzi Zaki, advisor at Kuwait based Arab Planning Institute (API).

In an interview with a local daily, Zaki has suggested an Arab conference for discussing the indebtedness issue and its effects, adding that this conference should be held in the same manner as other conferences organised along regional blocs in Africa and Latin America.

He called on Arab debtor countries to play an effective role in the current international dialogue over this monetary issue. He commented that the Arab indebtedness impasse could not be handled through monetary actions only but through correcting mistaken developmental methods followed during the last quarter century.

### Drop

Meanwhile, Zaki estimated Arab debt at \$200 billion, viz 17 per cent of the Third World total indebtedness. He disclosed that the service of these debts amounted to \$11.5 billion during 1988.

Despite development efforts exerted during the last two decades and the increase of the national income in Arab countries, the image of the Arab economies is still not encouraging, the official was quoted as saying. Most Arab countries had witnessed a drop in the per capita income, in addition to the disparity in the distribution of revenues and increasing economic and commercial dependence. These factors will affect Arab economic horizons in the next decade particularly in its relations with other international economic blocs, Zaki said.

On the other hand, he said that international economic relations constitutes a reflection of internal developments and clarified that Arab exports in 1980 had amounted to 12.4 per cent of the total world exports but this percentage dropped drastically in 1986 and amounted to 4.3 per cent only. This drop certainly reflect the Arab share from world revenues.

### Crisis

In the meantime, Arab imports have been adversely affected during the same period according to the official. He clarified that current imports were estimated at 4.5 per cent of international imports, while these imports constituted 8 per cent of the world in 1982.

He added that critical signs for foreign debts are emerging in some Arab countries, referring that the indebtedness of some Arab countries such as Mauritania, South Yemen, Morocco and Jordan exceeded the Gross National Product (GNP) of these countries.

Further, the debts services of some Arab countries had witnessed significant increase during the last few years.

The relevant percentage had amounted to 51 per cent of the total exports in Algeria, in 1986, 41 per cent in Morocco, 44 per cent in North Yemen, South Yemen and Somalia.

### Withdrawal

Conversely, Arab debtors countries are suffering a foreign currency crisis which coincided with the devaluation of national currencies vis-a-vis other foreign currencies.

In the light of the above, the official expected that the Arab countries concerned will apply to the international finance agencies to reschedule debts during the next decade. This will result in the national currencies being further devaluated and eventually these countries will have no alternative but succumb to the demands of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) calling for cancellation of subsidies which is currently

extended by these countries for some basic commodities.

These countries will also have to resort to increasing taxes and the interest rate in addition to the remarkable withdrawal of the countries from the different economic activities.

In addition, some corporations may have to be denationalised by selling the same to the private sector.

He added that these countries will witness social and economic collapse, sluggish development process and increased unemployment.

However, Zaki suggested several proposals to approach the Arab economic crisis such as reviewing development methods, by setting up a sound rating for economic priorities to be based on the right distribution of resources commensurate with the state's circumstances. He called for paying more attention to the developing of industrial and agricultural sectors and to minimise food and commercial dependency.

### Gap

The official also called for bridging the gap between available resources and foreign ones. This requires exerting efforts to increase savings and achieving necessary rationalisation.

This also requires a significant role to be played by the relevant states in the field of foreign trade, encouraging exports, application of appropriate foreign exchange policy, minimising deficit in the national balance of payments and the provision of foreign currencies.

On the Arab level, the official called for Arab solidarity to face the indebtedness crisis in Arab countries. He called for creating a new formula for Arab joint co-operation in the field of Arab joint ventures and boosting the role of the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) and other Arab Development Funds.

# GCC to lift economic barriers

KUWAIT, Dec 4, (Kuna): Economic integration among the six members of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) will be the focal point when their six leaders meet for summit talks in Oman later this month, a senior GCC official said in an interview published here today.

The summiters will discuss regulations that would lift restrictions on GCC nationals when establishing firms and owning real-estate in a GCC country other than their own, GCC Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs Abdullah Al Quait told Kuwait daily Al Seyassah.

But the key topic will be introduction of uniform customs dues among GCC members as the six

countries continue to try to knock down economic barriers among them, he said.

### Enforcement

He pointed out that tax unification has been agreed in the GCC 1983 economic accord but enforcement had been repeatedly frozen.

Quait stressed that unification would be an introduction to a common GCC market and that without it the regional party would find it increasingly difficult to negotiate with world trade partners.

Quait said the GCC leaders would also examine a proposal suggesting improving the council's mechanism by giving the council's presidency a greater role in following up resolutions and agreements.

## Good news

A VERY pleasant surprise concerning government employees will be announced shortly, according to reliable sources.

The new measures to be instituted will include improving the "living standards" of all government and public establishment employees in addition to retired persons.

# 2m heads of cattle slaughtered annually

## Remains buried

TOTAL production of present slaughterhouses is about two million heads of cattle a year, according to Sheikh Salem Mohammed Al Sabah, director of slaughterhouses department in Kuwait.

Vets at the slaughterhouse carefully inspect slaughtered cattle to certify those fit for human consumption. In this connection, about 30 per cent of parts of the slaughtered animals are thrown away. However, some remains of slaughtered cattle are taken by their owners like limbs, heads and skins.

Skins, in particular, not taken away by their owners are collected and sent to the Kuwait Tanning Company. Here, they are processed to be used in some industries like making shoes, bags and clothes. Fats of slaughtered cattle are melted and canned to be exported for use in some industries like soap and cosmetics. The bowels are cleaned and washed to be good for human consumption. Contents of these bowels are treated, dried and used as fodder for cattle or fertilisers.

As a breakdown, the official said that remains of slaughtered cattle in Kuwait areas follows: 30 tons of bowels and their contents a day, ten tons of blood a day, 65

spoiled sheep and one contaminated cow a day. These figures are from statistics from July 1, 1988 to end of June 1989. These figures increase or decrease according to occasions and seasons. These figures do not include imported fresh and cooked meat as well as frozen meat and fish, the official said.

### Denial

Sheikh Salem categorically denied that remains of the slaughter-houses are thrown into the sea. These remains are carried by special vehicles to places allocated by the municipality for burial. Also a factory in Kuwait occasionally takes some of the remains, he said.

The official pointed out that the municipality opened two new slaughterhouses in Saibed and Falaika Island in one year. Work has also commenced to build the new slaughterhouse at Jabra Governorate beside expanding slaughterhouses in Fahahel.

Work is in progress to establish several mobile slaughterhouses, the official said and added that 12 temporary slaughtering centres have been opened during last Eid Al Adha in different areas of Kuwait to reduce the pressure on the main slaughterhouses.

## Gold festival winners

Winning numbers of Al Muthanna Complex lottery for "Gold Festival" Contest.

Under supervision of the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Trade Representatives, Al Muthanna Complex made the drawing for "Gold Festival" Contest on Wednesday, 29th Nov. 89, where 575000 coupons were distributed.

List of the winning numbers:

Prize	Coupon No.	No.	3106	206537
1.	414041	28.	350646	68948
2.	70503	29.	552892	133883
3.	101104	30.	344139	82500
4.	486467	31.	165313	443406
5.	331896	32.	80386	125765
6.	27270	33.	555856	459782
7.	70620	34.	121936	261144
8.	553228	35.	108568	258492
9.	306099	36.	393451	172246
10.	138937	37.	453802	28904
11.	325624	38.	445446	463706
12.	424707	39.	241086	561258
13.	387064	40.	194834	250442
14.	303258	41.	457049	497917
15.	408987	42.	203040	512948
16.	367491	43.	538432	517837
17.	42703	44.	534801	154132
18.	51154	45.	73320	56018
19.	22442	46.	131788	289546
20.	306998	47.	425891	196347
21.	184652	48.	525309	345345
22.	202596	49.	580650	368407
23.	163795	50.	364559	116984
24.	147719	51.	357978	256331
25.	310253	52.	426161	332239
26.	539	53.	558159	
27.	123172	54.		

## Iraqi official visiting Kuwait

KUWAIT, Dec 4, (Kuna): Iraqi Awqaf (endowment) Undersecretary Mohammed Sharif today arrived here on a few days visit to Kuwait which aims at promoting bilateral co-operation between the two countries.

## New Bahrain exhibition centre to open in 1991

BAHRAIN's new multi-purpose exhibition centre will mark a significant milestone in the history of the island's international trade and commerce by helping to promote and develop the country's exports when it opens in 1991, according to Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, Habib Qassim recently.

The minister said that the centre is being conceived as a project aimed at offering facilities and services befitting Bahrain's status as an external centre for trade, commerce and finance.

According to Qassim the centre is being developed in terms of providing a common forum for exporters, importers, wholesalers and retailers to meet and discuss various issues connected with trade and conclude transactions.

Qassim said the centre will be jointly owned by the General Organisation for Social Insurance and the Pension Fund Commission.


The ambitious exhibition centre is being built at Sanabia, outskirts of the main commercial centre of Manama, at a cost of BD4.7 million. It is scheduled to be completed in January 1991. The modern structure incorporating Islamic and local architecture will hold between 5,000 and 6,000 visitors.

The entire project including a car park for about 500 vehicles will occupy an area of 42,000 square metres.

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Saturday 9 & Sunday 10/12	: Elysee - Al Muthanna Complex
Monday 11 & Tuesday 12/12	: Samah Center - Salmiyah - S. Al-Mubarak St
Wednesday 13 & Thursday 14/12	: Fayssal Supermarket - Jabriyah
Saturday 16 & Sunday 17/12	: Focce - Salmiyah - Zahra Complex
Monday 18 & Tuesday 19/12	: Al-Boudoor - Farwaniyah - Dabbous Complex
Wednesday 20 & Thursday 21/12	: Al-Sammak - Hawalli - Ibn Khalidoun Complex

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## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

MEET success like a gentleman and disaster like a man — Lord Brienhead, English statesman (1872 - 1930).

## Intifada hardens Israeli attitudes

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (Reuters): The longer the Palestinian uprising drags on the more it seems to Israelis a normal, depressing, routine.

Entering its third year this week, unrest in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, spilling at times into Israel, has dropped from headlines and dinner-table conversation. Coffee houses and discotheques are full.

But while the intifada affects the outward lives of Israelis less, it has made many fearful and driven growing numbers to consider radical solutions such as mass deportation of Palestinians.

"It makes us tense because the Arabs are walking around among us and we don't know which of them is a terrorist," said Geula Vazana, 29, a beautician from occupied Jerusalem.

Aliza Dayan, 49, an Israeli mother of five, said: "I can't open my door. I am afraid. Everyone looks suspicious. The Arabs succeeded in making us feel this way."

Israeli troops have killed nearly 600 Palestinians during the uprising, more than 100 of them children under 16, according to the Israeli human rights watch group B'tselem.

### Died

Forty-four Jews have died in the uprising. Another 1,600 soldiers and 800 Israeli civilians have been wounded inside the territories, Army statistics show.

Dedi Zucker, a leftwing member of parliament who has championed Palestinian human rights, says: "If you had told me two years ago that Israel would kill more than a hundred children, I would have told you the country would go mad."

But political analyst Avraham Sela concludes that "the price Israeli society had to pay for these two years is too little to change Israel in regard to the territories, given their importance and the emotional affiliation."

Instead, fear has pushed the Israeli electorate to the right, boosting support for small extremist parties who offer simple solutions such as deporting Arabs en masse.

A recent opinion poll showed an unprecedented 52 per cent of Israelis willing to consider "transfer" — a euphemism for deportation — if a peaceful solution failed. Six months earlier a similar poll found only 38 per cent in favour.

Polls also show a rise in numbers willing to contemplate creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel, although the idea is still rejected by at least four Israelis in five.

"The fact is there is a growing number of people who believe in a two-state solution, and a growing number of people who believe in transfer," says Zucker.

"These groups have one thing in common. They have both given up the belief that it is possible for Palestinians and Israelis to live together."

### Right

Some 70,000 ultra-nationalist Jewish settlers who live among 1.75 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip claim a Biblical right to the lands. Others say Israel must control the areas for security.

Polls show Israelis support the Army's iron fist policy in fighting Arab protesters and a majority think an even firmer hand should be used.

Anxieties were fed this year by the intifada's most dramatic attack. On July 5, a Gaza Strip Arab forced a bus off the Tel-Aviv-Jerusalem highway into a ravine, killing 16 Jews.

The incident reinforced fears that the intifada was crossing the "green line" dividing pre-1967 Israel from territories captured in the six day war.

It also deepened suspicion of Israel's own 700,000 Arab citizens, many of whom have shown open sympathy for the revolt.

"Every stone thrown has become a kind of disaster," says Zucker. "It's a very exceptional example of the occupier who considers himself a victim."

The revolt has taken its toll on Israeli morale.

### Emigrating

Israelis are emigrating in greater numbers. The Army faces an unusual phenomenon of conscientious objectors unwilling to serve in the occupied territories. Reports of brutality in the Army and at home are increasing.

For some, it is just another symptom of an ailing society. "Here you only have wars, terror, people getting killed. People can barely eat," said Dayan. "The intifada is just rubbing salt in the wounds. It burns even more."

Though Israel has resisted political change, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's proposal for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip did signal a move.

Before the uprising, Israelis spoke vaguely of a territorial compromise with Jordan as a solution to the Palestine problem.

Today, they are debating more practical issues such as whether to talk to the PLO and an agenda for Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

"Finding a solution is also scary," said Dayan. "It is impossible to know what awaits us."

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1560 — Charles IX succeeds as king of France on death of Francis II.

1792 — Trial of France's King Louis XVI begins; revolutionary coup takes place in Geneva.

1797 — Napoleon Bonaparte arrives in Paris to command forces for invasion of England.

1812 — France's Napoleon Bonaparte leaves his troops retreating from Russia and sets out for Paris.

1913 — Britain forbids sending arms to Ireland.

1934 — Clashes break out between Italian and Ethiopian troops on Somali border; Soviet Union executes 66 people charged with plotting against Joseph Stalin government.

1936 — Soviet Union adopts new constitution under a supreme council.

1944 — Allied troops take Ravenna, Italy, in World War II.

1956 — British and French forces begin withdrawal from Egypt in Suez war; union of British Togoland and Ghana is approved.

1961 — United Nations forces launch attack in Katanga, the Congo, near Elizabethville.

1962 — United States and Soviet Union agree to co-operate in peaceful uses of outer space.

1971 — Soviet Union, at UN Security Council, vetoes resolution calling for ceasefire in hostilities between India and Pakistan over Kashmir.

1977 — Egypt breaks diplomatic relations with five Arab nations which were hostile to President Anwar Sadat's peace overtures to Israel.

1985 — Britain says it will go through with plans to withdraw from United Nations educational, scientific and cultural organization (Unesco).

1987 — At least 22 people are reported dead after fire erupts aboard Panamanian-registered freighter off Spain's northwest coast.

1988 — About 90 cabinet ministers from throughout world convene in Montreal, Canada, to discuss liberalizing global trade.



US President George Bush (left) and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev look at each other during their joint press statements on the Soviet cruise liner Maxim Gorky on Sunday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Meeting ushered in a new era in world history Summit marked by caution

VALETTA, Malta, (Reuters): Billed as a meeting that would usher in a new era in world history, the Malta superpower summit was marked by caution and small steps that contrasted with the dramatic news from Eastern Europe.

The modest outcome of the talks also differed sharply from the ambitious schemes floated at a superficially similar US-Soviet meeting three years ago in Reykjavik.

Both summits were informal and arranged at short notice on windswept islands on the fringes of Europe. But there the similarity ended.

At Reykjavik, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and then US President Ronald Reagan narrowly failed to agree on a plan to rid the world of nuclear ballistic missiles, alarming Washington's European allies who had not been consulted.

In Malta, Gorbachev and Reagan's successors, George Bush and Bill Clinton, agreed that they would neither spring arms control surprises nor attempt to decide the fate of Europe as the allied summit in

Yalta had done 44 years previously.

They hailed the changes under way in Europe with ringing phrases about a new epoch of peace — but they made restraint the watchword of their meeting.

Three years ago, the superpowers and their arms control talks appeared to be setting the pace of East-West relations.

Now, as the East bloc countries jettison communism and throw the old European order into confusion, Washington and Moscow are adopting a pose of interested spectators.

"In our position the most dangerous thing is to exaggerate. An element of caution must always be preserved," Gorbachev told a news conference.

"The important thing," said Bush, "was not to go demonstrating on top of the Berlin Wall to show how happy we are about the changes."

Events in Eastern Europe coinciding with the last day of the summit on Sunday graphically illustrated how the revolution there, though sparked off by

Gorbachev's policy changes, has for the moment put superpower detente in the shade.

In East Germany, the entire ruling Communist Party politburo and central committee resigned in the face of grassroots pressure, an event that would have seemed incredible a few months ago but is now becoming almost commonplace.

In Czechoslovakia, the first government in two decades to contain non-communist ministers was formed, but failed to satisfy the pro-democracy opposition.

By contrast, the Malta summit could only offer a few modest moves designed to smooth the path of superpower ties.

No new progress was recorded on either of the two main sets of arms control talks — the US-Soviet Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) in Geneva and the NATO-Warsaw Pact conventional forces in Europe (CFE) talks in Vienna.

## Bush finds value of talk

VALETTA, Malta, (UPI): When he first popped the prospect of his "non-summit summit" with Mikhail Gorbachev, President Bush said he wanted their shipboard Mediterranean meeting to be "a chance to put our feet up and talk."

So did they?

As the summit concluded Sunday, there were mixed accounts.

Bush said yes, there was one occasion where "I actually did put my foot up." White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said he never saw things get quite that informal during the eight hours Bush and Gorbachev spent on the Soviet cruise ship Maxim Gorky docked in the ancient stone harbour.

Propped feet aside, Fitzwater told reporters the meetings "were very businesslike, very serious, very dignified, sophisticated."

"It was a very good kind of businesslike discussion," the spokesman said. "No argument." Except, perhaps, on Central America, but even there both men took pains to stress the differences were not taken personally.

By virtue of its status as the first between Bush and Gorbachev, there was much talk at this summit of the chemistry between the two men, even though they met on several occasions while Bush was vice president — a fact the Soviet leader made a point of mentioning.

Devoid of dramatic announcements or major initiatives, the summit outcome was judged by the participants more on atmosphere than substantive achievement. "They got on very well," Fitzwater said. His Soviet counterpart, Gennady Gerasimov, said the talks with Bush had been "much more pragmatic" than the five summits Gorbachev held with Ronald Reagan.

If their aides seemed fixated on personal rapport, it was only because Bush and Gorbachev made good on a commitment to meet outside the pageantry, protocol and other normal trappings of superpower summits.

That had been tried once before — in October 1986 by Reagan and Gorbachev in Reykjavik, Iceland. And because of its unstructured nature, that meeting spun out of control — at least in the judgment of diplomatic professionals — when the two leaders began theorizing strides in disarmament that defied political reality if not imagination.

Since assuming power in early March 1985, Gorbachev has proved adept at playing for world opinion, and catching US officials off guard, with eye-catching arm proposals that challenge the West to follow the lead of the East in ensuring the peace.

In Malta, however, there was no grandstanding, no tricks, no bolt-from-the-blue surprises. Driven perhaps by the complexities that confront them, Bush and Gorbachev settled for a summit where talk may have been cheap, but as important as banner headlines.

While disappointment may lie in the emphasis on style over substance, the results were not insubstantial.

The prescription Bush handed Gorbachev for increased bilateral co-operation was a blend of old and repackaged proposals. At the same time, it was designed to blunt critics who charge he has lacked vision in US-Soviet relations.

The two leaders also left to their foreign ministers the task of bridging complicated differences — political and military, as well as technical — that stand in the way of agreements on cuts in strategic arms and conventional forces. What was not clear was whether the new instructions to their negotiators will spell out solutions to the thorniest issues in the talks.

And the timetable set for that effort — a year at the outside — may still prove too short.

On Central America and naval arms control, areas of dispute for years, chemistry could not overcome the staunch defence of political and military interests. With consensus beyond their grasp, the leaders settled for an announcement that the summit created a climate where their differences can be aired, if not narrowed.

For the first four years of his presidency, Ronald Reagan maintained that summits for the sake of discussion and periodic personal contact were not worth the effort or the risk. During the first six months of his presidency, Bush took a similar dim view, firmly insisting on progress rather than chit-chat.

On Sunday, that seemed to change.

"I think if we hadn't sat here and talked, we might not have understood how each other feels on these important questions," Bush said.

Bush, like Reagan before him, seemed to have come around in his thinking on the value of talk.

## Gorbachev wins support

VALETTA, Malta, (Reuters): Three years ago a glowering Mikhail Gorbachev wrapped up an earlier superpower summit on another rain-swept island with a grim warning of potential nuclear holocaust.

On Sunday, with a smiling George Bush nodding agreement at his side, he outlined a vision of co-operation between East and West as the world moved away from cold war into a new era of prolonged peace.

The world itself had already changed dramatically since the Kremlin leader, then less than two years in power, and US president Ronald Reagan met in Reykjavik to try to break out of the arms race spiral.

But Gorbachev, with three more years of political struggle at home and a new wealth of international experience behind him, had changed too — shaped into a wiser man by what he recognises as the realities of the world around.

In Malta this stormy weekend, in contrast to his near-disastrous foray to Iceland in November 1986, the new Gorbachev achieved much of what he had sought from his first meeting with Bush since the US leader entered the White House.

Among the items at the top of his shopping list as he headed for the neutral Mediterranean island state was a promise of American support in his struggle to bring the crisis-ridden Soviet economy into calmer waters.

What he won was a clear promise from Bush that the heavy tariffs imposed on Soviet goods entering the United States would be lifted once the right of free emigration was formally enshrined in forthcoming Kremlin legislation.

And the US President threw in an unexpected bonus — that he would support Soviet entry with observer status into the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the organisation that regulates international commerce.

With the economists around Gorbachev insisting that the country must move rapidly towards a market system despite mounting resistance from conservatives, Moscow needs such recognition of its reforms from a world body.

Another plus for Gorbachev to emerge from the summit — held in shelter from the raging elements aboard the Soviet cruise liner Maxim Gorky in a southern Maltese harbour — was a firm pledge from Bush of non-interference in Eastern Europe.

The Kremlin leader, under fire at home from old-style ideologists and hardline Communist Party officials keen to prove that his policies are undermining "world socialism," welcomed the US promise at their joint news conference.

And with Bush listening intently, Gorbachev declared he warmly approved of the wave of change sweeping across the once docile "peoples democracies" — signalling that in his view it was pointless for any communist state to resist them.

"I think these changes in the Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe have been brought into being by the process of history itself. No one can avoid them," he told the news conference.

There seemed little doubt that Gorbachev had in mind not only his own domestic opposition and the hardline European bastions of Romania and Albania but also China, which is firmly resisting political reform, and Cuba.

Since his own visit to Havana in April, the Soviet leader has appeared increasingly distancing himself from Cuban leader Fidel Castro's continued support for revolutionary movements in Latin America, and particularly in the US backyard.

Moscow, proclaiming it supports the search for political solutions in Central America, has long insisted that it had halted all arms supplies to the Marxist Sandinista government of Nicaragua.

In Malta, Gorbachev reiterated that no more arms were flowing to Managua, winning public recognition from Bush that this was the case and implicit acceptance that the Soviet Union was now on a new course in the region.

The Soviet leader also relayed to Bush assurances from Managua that the Sandinistas were not supplying arms to the guerrillas who launched a mass offensive against the US-backed government of El Salvador last month.

"I don't believe the Sandinistas have told the truth to our Soviet friends," retorted Bush in the only sour note of a news conference that Gorbachev himself had described at the start as a "very important symbol" of the new superpower links.

Yet the Soviet leader's own recognition of the realities of Central America and US power in the region seemed to mark a new watershed in Moscow policies.

## Stormy weather but calm summit

MARSAXLOKK BAY, Malta, (AP): After all was said and done, the summit at sea was conducted beside a pier. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev never put to sea and President George Bush had trouble reaching shore.

"I don't think anyone can say that the salt water got-together was anything other than adventure, at least out in the harbour here," Bush said at the close of the two-day summit swept by stormy weather.

Bush and Gorbachev conducted all their business on the Soviet liner Maxim Gorky docked at Marsaxlokk Bay instead of the gale-buffed Soviet missile cruiser Slava and USS Belknap, two warships anchored not far from harbour.

"I want to thank the captain and crew of Belknap for the great support that they've given us — I think they were wondering if I was about to become a permanent guest," said Bush, who was stranded aboard the ship Saturday night by the storm.

Switching sites for the shipboard summit raised questions about whether it was a good idea in the first place.

"No, it was a very good idea," insisted Bush, when a reporter asked the question as the President arrived onboard the luxury liner.

But, one reporter asked, didn't he think it was just as well that the Soviets happened to have a big cruise boat handy at the dock?

"We could have floated the Holiday Inn out here," Bush replied, referring to the hotel, on land, prepared by White House staff as a back-up meeting venue.

"This shows we can adjust to changing circumstances very well," Gorbachev said.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Sunday's meetings could have taken place onboard the Belknap as planned, but Gorbachev didn't want to come out to the ship, about 500 yards (metres) offshore.

"He doesn't share our love for the sea," Fitzwater said.

Bush watched the building gale from the Belknap's rolling bridge, rode out into the bay's heaving waters on a small admiral's barge and wore a tiny precaution for seasickness Sunday.

Pool reporters aboard the Maxim Gorky said Bush, a former naval officer, wore a medicated patch used to prevent motion sickness after spending what crewmen aboard the Belknap described as a rough night.

The crewmen said the ship was swinging on its forward anchor throughout the second straight night of the fierce December gale. But Bush apparently suffered no ill effects from the motion.

"He was fine. But I think some of his secret service guys were a little green," one officer said.

Both Bush and Secretary of State James Baker, who told reporters no one was seasick, were seen Sunday morning using scopalamine, a coin-size patch worn behind the ear that releases medication to stabilize the liquid in the labyrinth of the inner ear, which controls balance.

The patch, which lasts 72 hours, is used as a precaution against seasickness and not as a treatment.

At the close of the summit, the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union held an unprecedented joint news conference in an atmosphere so free of superpower tension that it would have seemed impossible to believe just a few years ago.

Gorbachev got the biggest laugh with a small, well-aimed barb at Bush's much-publicized intention to approach the summit carefully.

"In our position the most dangerous thing is to exaggerate. We always should preserve elements of cautiousness," said Gorbachev, pausing before he added, "I have used the favourite word of President Bush."

At another point, while the two leaders were discussing their positions on the possible reunification of Germany, Gorbachev said he and Bush had exchanged messages on the question.

"The President wrote in English and I don't read English. I answered him in Russian and he doesn't read Russian. But, we agreed," Gorbachev said.

"No matter what it said," Bush added.

Near the end of their news conference, Gorbachev suggested thanking reporters for their co-operation. But he added, "although of course we don't know what they've written yet or what they will be writing."

But Bush, again showing caution, asked: "reserve the right to thank them afterwards you mean, after we've seen what they've written?"

Replied Gorbachev: "No, right now, and they will write better."

## Quote me

"Your crusade has resulted in the loss of so many innocent lives. I am pleading with you to return to your senses and surrender. To surrender this time is not a sign of cowardice. It is a sign of patriotism and gallantry, a gesture of selflessness. Most of you have been misled. We are ready to receive you back. How can you celebrate Christmas with blood on your hands?" — Roman Catholic archbishop of Manila to Philippine rebels bent on overthrowing Aquino.

"I didn't think I hit the ball that badly or didn't serve that badly. He moves better than me now and he's stronger. It's scary because usually when you get around his age (30) you tend to slow down. He seems to be getting better. It's kind of frustrating. I wish he'd leave." — Aaron Krickstein after a loss to Ivan Lendl.

"I was setting a pick and he came out of it with an elbow. Maybe he thought I wouldn't complain. There are some players who will take that, but not me. I told him to cut it out and play clean. When somebody is playing chess, I'm not going to take it." — Houston Rockets centre, Akeem Olajuwon after ejection from a game for fighting J.R. Reid of Charlotte.

"No one in the world could reasonably contend that President Bush or his hand-picked commission are impartial when it comes to Nicaragua. We might not be able to stop the US government from violating our sovereignty, our dignity and our rights under international law. But at least we can prevent them from doing so as our invited guests." — Nicaraguan foreign minister.

"The political stand of secessionist groups, and the war they are waging, has created havoc with development activities, triggering death and a mass exodus of people due to drought and starvation." — The Ethiopian Information Ministry accusing rebels of obstructing relief supplies to famine victims.

"I think it is sad that anybody gets run. I don't get run. Maybe Boris gets run. Maybe everybody else gets run. But I don't get run. I make my own decisions." — Andre Agassi angry over Becker's comments he would benefit from better advisers.

20/12/1989





Rushing to hospital

Lebanese Red Cross workers rush a man, wounded in the shelling on the market town of Nabatiyah in south Lebanon, to a hospital in the port city of Sidon. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Lebanon protests to UN against Israel

BEIRUT, Dec 4, (Kuna): Lebanon today lodged a complaint with the UN Security Council against Israel for the repeated military attacks against Lebanese villages in the south, the latest of which caused three deaths and 20 injuries, a ranking Foreign Ministry official said.

Acting secretary-general of the Foreign Ministry Salah Boustayeh said the complaint was sent to the council with the aim of deterring Israel from carrying out its daily aggression on Lebanese territory.

He added that the message of the complaint was to call for a Security Council meeting in case Israel continued its practices in south Lebanon.

Pro-Israeli militiamen pounded a Shiite market town in south Lebanon for a third day today, killing four people and wounding 18 others, security sources said.

They said South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia gunners hit scores of houses and destroyed six cars in Nabatiyah as they rained tank shells down from a hill inside Israel's self-declared security zone.

Many residents fled to neighbouring villages. Others huddled in shelters. A Monday market was cancelled.

SLA shelling of Nabatiyah, a major trading centre in south Lebanon, killed three people previously, the security sources said.

A spokesman for the Shiite Muslim Amal militia which controls Nabatiyah said: "If the shelling continued, we will retaliate against villages held by the SLA."

Kuna correspondent, quoting security reports, said the villages of Barashit, Shakra and Khora and others have also been the targets of shelling, causing material damage.

Israeli warplanes flew over wide sections of south Lebanon and broke the sound barrier several times this morning.

## Arab panel raps Aoun

### Appeal for restraint

RIYADH, Dec 4, (Agencies): Arab mediators blasted Christian military leader Michel Aoun today for rejecting their efforts to resolve Lebanon's crisis but appealed for restraint to defuse the situation.

The foreign ministers of Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia, members of a special Arab League committee on Lebanon, issued their statement at the end of a two-day meeting in Riyadh.

It said Aoun's rejection of an Arab-sponsored pact on political reforms constituted "the main obstacle to the reconciliation drive and the main reason behind the dangerous escalations recently witnessed in the Lebanese arena."

But it added: "At the same time, they (the ministers) appeal to all Lebanese parties to exercise self-restraint, wisdom and care in dealing with matters at this critical stage."

Thousands of Syrian and Lebanese soldiers have ringed the Christian enclave controlled by Aoun since Syrian-backed President Elias Hrawi threatened to use force to oust the defiant general.

The three ministers said they saw Hrawi's election by parliament 10 days ago and his formation of a national unity government as "the only chance" to end Lebanon's 14-year civil war.

They condemned the assassination of Hrawi's predecessor, Rene Muawad, last month and said the "evil hand which perpetrated this crime," must be found.

They also praised the "courage of Lebanese deputies who braved terrorist attempts aimed at preventing them practicing their constructive role."

It indirectly urged Aoun and his supporters to express opposition through normal democratic means. "Otherwise, they would be considered rebels against legitimacy, delaying the country's move toward unity, harmony and peace, and threatening it with the whirlpool of partition."

It appealed for international support of the new president and the cabinet under Prime Minister Salim Hoss, a Sunni Muslim.

Meanwhile, international appeals for a peaceful end to the crisis between Aoun and Lebanon's Syrian-backed government have eased the threat of an assault to oust the defiant military leader.

Pro-Syrian Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, who has favoured using military means to topple Aoun, softened his tone by raising other options.

Jumblatt, a member of Hrawi's government, said that unless the crisis with Aoun was resolved, Lebanon would face partition.

In Abu Dhabi, French Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement also called for a negotiated settlement to the stand-off between Aoun and Hrawi.

# Badran sworn in Jordan Premier

AMMAN, Dec 4, (AP): King Hussein swore in Mudar Badran as prime minister today, telling him to support the Palestine Liberation Organization and work to solve Jordan's economic crisis.

The appointment followed parliamentary elections last month, the first nationwide ballot in 22 years, in which Islamic fundamentalist secured nearly three dozen of 80 parliament seats.

State-run radio announced the resignation of Prime Minister Zeid Bin Shaker, 55, but did not say whether he was appointed chief of the royal court, as was reported earlier by palace officials.

"I ask you to work with the PLO and to support the steadfastness of our brothers, the Palestinians in their occupied territories," Hussein said in a letter to Badran, also 55.

The king vowed to "spread and deepen democracy," which he said should not only be "confined to parliament... but also to the sovereignty of the law."

The king assigned the former cabinet to continue its duties until a new one is formed. Badran was formerly chief of the royal court.

In the economic field, the monarch stressed the importance of increasing the

kingdom's foreign currency reserves and maintaining the Jordanian dinar's purchasing power.

Since late last year, the dinar's value against other currencies has fallen sharply under the pressure of foreign debts of more than 8.3 billion dinars.

Royal palace officials said an announcement of the makeup of the new cabinet might be delayed due to disputes among potential new ministers over the assignment of portfolios.

The palace officials said the new cabinet would include former ministers, some members of the royally appointed senate

and some members of the lower house of parliament elected on Nov 8.

According to one royal palace source, the disputes stem from three Muslim Brotherhood deputies who were assigned portfolios "which they did not accept."

The source did not explain what chairs they were assigned but he said they were seeking the portfolios of education, higher education and Islamic religious affairs.

The Muslim Brotherhood, whose declared members won 25 seats in parliament, campaigned to impose stricter Islamic laws and improve social welfare benefits.

## Egypt, PLO differ on talks

CAIRO, Dec 4, (Reuters): Egypt's eagerness to push the Palestinians into direct peace talks with Israelis, even if the PLO is excluded initially, is straining normally close relations with the Palestinian Liberation Organisation.

"It is unbelievable that Egypt should join those putting pressure on the PLO," a senior member of PLO leader Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah group told Reuters.

The PLO snubbed Egypt on Friday. Ignoring Cairo's go-between role, it sent a memorandum direct to Washington firmly stating that no Palestinians will negotiate with Israel unless they are named by the PLO.

Israel adamantly rejects talks with the PLO or its representatives, branding it as a terrorist organisation.

Egypt has yet to react publicly to the PLO decision to ignore its advice. But senior officials say there is still a 50-50 chance that direct talks between Palestinians and Israelis might take place despite hardening attitudes on both sides.

One official said Egypt sees an historic opportunity to break the Middle East logjam. Cairo would continue talking to the PLO, urging it to sanction a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

He said the new thaw in East-West relations was conducive to settlement of regional conflicts such as the Angola-Namibia dispute.

Egypt is trying to persuade the PLO that talks at any level would lead eventually to direct PLO-Israeli negotiations.

The PLO sees its possible exclusion from direct talks as a trap. It would allow Israeli leaders to avoid discussion on setting up a Palestinian state and give them time to crush the two-year intifada (uprising) against Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Egypt, the only Arab state to have made peace with Israel, has shown private impatience with the PLO's unwillingness to accept its advice.

"The Israelis will have to talk to the PLO in the end," the Egyptian official said. Israeli leaders would realise that Palestinian representatives get their instructions from the PLO.

They would eventually decide it is easier to talk to it directly, he said.

"There's a feeling among Egyptians that if the peace process crumbles, then moderation will lose out both in Egypt and in the region as a whole," said one European envoy.

"Postponing dialogue harms the chances for peace," said Egyptian political commentator Tahseen Bashir. "Taking a hardline position only serves Israeli interests."

For their part, some PLO officials sense that Egypt is under pressure from Washington to deliver the Palestinians. They fear Cairo is trying to strong-arm them into making concessions to the Jewish state.

"We relied heavily on Egyptian mediation. We were very hopeful but it (Cairo) is now unable to finish the job," said the Fatah leader, who asked not to be named.

Palestinian leader Salah Khalaf, in an interview with an Amman newspaper, accused the United States of trying to exclude the PLO from Middle East peace efforts.

# Iran buying arms from North Korea

## Revolutionary Guards chief in Pyongyang

MANAMA, Dec 4, (Agencies): The commander of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards Corps arrived in Pyongyang, North Korea yesterday for four days of talks with Korean communist officials. Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency reported, and one Gulf-based diplomat said the Iranians were on a mission to buy arms in North Korea.

Iran obtained Chinese-made arms, including deadly Silkworm missiles, via Beijing's ally Pyongyang during the eight-year-long Gulf war, when most Western states adhered to an arms embargo on Tehran. US military officials said. But China has denied selling Silkworms to Iran.

One Gulf-based diplomat said the Iranians were on an arms-buying mission, but gave no further details. "The Iranians are in North Korea to buy arms, but I have no more information on that at present," the envoy said in a telephone interview.

Revolutionary Guards commander Mohsen Rezaei and his accompanying delegation were greeted at Pyongyang airport by North Korea's Defence Minister, Marshall O Jin U, said the Iranian agency, monitored in Bahrain.

It said O Jin U told his Iranian guests at a banquet in their honour that North Korea, "was ready for mutual co-operation with Iran, especially in the defence area."

Rezaei said Iran needed co-operation with North Korea now more than ever, but did not say why that was so, or what types of arms Tehran would like to buy from Pyongyang.

Rezaei continued talks on defence co-operation with North Korean officials in Pyongyang today, Tehran Radio reported, and an Arab government official said Tehran offered North Korea oil for arms.

The state-run radio, said the Iranian-delegation held a second day of talks today with North Korea's Defence Minister O Jin U.

One Gulf-based Arab government official said the Iranians, whose requests to the Soviet Union for sophisticated military hardware were apparently rebuffed, were seeking from North Korea both military hardware and the means to build their own weapons.

## Police ring Iran embassy

### Austrian bid to catch killers

NICOSIA, Dec 4, (AP): Iran's official news agency claimed yesterday that Austrian police have surrounded the Iranian embassy in Vienna under the pretext of trying to arrest Iranian suspects of involvement in the slaying of a Kurdish rebel leader.

Austria issued warrants for the arrest of two Iranians after the July 13 assassination of Abdul Rahman Qassemilou, 59, slain in a Vienna apartment along with two other leaders of the outlawed Kurdish Democratic party of Iran.

There was no immediate response to the Iranian claim from Austrian authorities. Iran has denied it was involved in the killings and blamed them on Iraq.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency said police had been surrounding the embassy for the past week and were reported to have "roughly dealt with the embassy staff and those calling at the building, in contradiction with diplomatic norms."

The agency, monitored in Cyprus, said police acted under the pretext of trying to arrest the two Iranians, neither of whom has been publicly identified by Austrian authorities.

Qassemilou was elected secretary general of the KDPI in 1973 and had been regularly re-elected since. The party was founded in 1945 as an autonomy movement for Iranian Kurdistan, and is banned in Iran.

There are 20 million Kurds in Iran, Iraq and Turkey, with enclaves in the Soviet Union and Syria. About eight million Kurds live in Iran.



Herzog in Madrid

Israel's President Haim Herzog (left) and his wife Ora Herzog (second from right) pose with King Juan Carlos of Spain and Queen Sophie at the Zarzuela Palace in Madrid. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Afghan rebels repulse attack outside Kabul

ISLAMABAD, Dec 4, (AP): US-backed rebels today claimed to have crushed a weeklong communist troop offensive to retake strategic government positions outside Afghanistan's capital.

The fighting, which reportedly centered about 18 miles (30 kilometres) southeast of Kabul, could not be independently confirmed.

Midia, a joint rebel news agency, claimed that an estimated 3,000 Soviet-backed government troops, led by Afghanistan's Defence Minister Gen. Shahnawaz tanai, tried unsuccessfully to rout rebel fighters from posts at Chakaray and Illajay.

The rebels claimed they destroyed eight military vehicles and killed 45 soldiers before repulsing government troops.

Midia also reported that three rebel commanders were killed during the past week outside the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad.

Khalid, a commander, died when he stepped on a land mine while trying to retrieve the bodies of some rebel fighters killed in an earlier clash with government troops.

## Spain jails 4 Muslims

### Explosives smuggling charge

MADRID, Dec 4, (AP): A judge has ordered four more men to prison pending further investigation of a ring of alleged Muslim Shiite extremists suspected of smuggling large amounts of plastic explosives into Spain, a court spokeswoman said today.

The spokeswoman, who asked not to be identified, said judge Carlos Bueren, who had ordered three other men to prison on Nov 28 in connection with the investigation, sent the four to prison after questioning on Friday.

A total of eight men were arrested on Nov 23 following the discovery by police in the Mediterranean port of Valencia of 220 kg (444 lbs) of composition 4, a highly powerful plastic explosive, packed in a shipment of 25,000 cans of chickpea puree and fig jam from Lebanon.

Police said the group was planning to carry out attacks on a variety of targets in Europe.

One man carrying a Sudanese passport was freed on Nov 28 after questioning.

The seven men remanded to prison have been identified by their passports as Abbas Mohammed Hallan, 23, Kuwait, Hassan Hassan Rahd, 24, Brazil, and Ali Mohammed Sbaity, 23, Lebanon, Mohammed Mehusein Saber, 27, Iraq, Abdul Khadum Sbaity Abdul Muh-sain, 31, Iraq, Abbas Ali Hussein, 34, Iraq, and Maki Mohammed, 34, Iraq.

The first three men were linked by police to Hezbollah, the Iranian-backed group of Shiite zealots based in Lebanon.

On Nov 27 Hezbollah denied any connection of the arrested men to the organisation.

## Abu Nidal sick

Reports of Palestinian rebel leader Abu Nidal, sick in hospital with cancer, could not be confirmed. A Palestinian official said Abu Nidal was in a bad condition but not dying. Abu Nidal is a leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) group, which is active in the Middle East.

## MIDEAST BRIEFS

### Sedki to visit Tunis

TUNIS, Dec 4, (Reuters): Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki will pay an official visit to Tunisia on Wednesday to discuss economic co-operation, an official source said today.

### Herzog in Spain

MADRID, Dec 4, (AP): Israeli President Chaim Herzog landed today with King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and was scheduled to meet privately with Gonzalez later during his one-day unofficial visit to Spain.

### PFLP-GC man freed

DAMASCUS, Dec 4, (Reuters): A radical Palestinian group led by Ahmed Jibril said yesterday one of its members was among political prisoners released in Jordan.

### French minister

ABU DHABI, Dec 4, (Kuna): French Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement flew home today, concluding a three-day visit to the UAE.

### Waldheim in Tunis

TUNIS, Dec 4, (Reuters): Austrian President Kurt Waldheim arrived in Tunis today for a three-day visit during which he will hold talks with President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi.

### Bashir to visit Oman

KHARTOUM, Dec 4, (AP): Sudan's military ruler renews his round of Arab capitals tomorrow with a visit to Muscat for talks with Sultan Qaboos of Oman.

### Spain jails 4 Muslims

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### Iran wants to end isolation and earn hard cash through tourism

TEHRAN, Dec 4, (AP): After a decade of self-imposed isolation, Iran is trying to lure tourists to its once flourishing tourism industry as well as to promote a better image, Iran badly needed hard currency.

### Waldegrave in Aden, ground-breaking visit

ADEN, Dec 4, (Agencies): A British Foreign Office minister, paying a ground-breaking visit to South Yemen, met Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Al Dali today to discuss ways of improving relations, official sources said.

### Band Aid 89 to help famine victims

LONDON, Dec 4, (AP): Pop stars today were putting the finishing touches on a Band Aid 89 remake of Bob Geldof's "Do they know it's Christmas." Proceeds from sales of the record will help famine victims in Ethiopia.

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Pro-government soldiers raise their hands in jubilation after crushing a coup attempt by rebels. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Makati rebels hold More US action ruled out

(Continued from Page 1)

bombing the presidential palace last Friday, according to the Red Cross.

In other developments, officials said they foiled an assassination plot against Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos, and the military ordered a naval blockade of any Mactan island, where rebels control an air base about 350 miles (560 km) southeast of Manila.

The government claimed during the weekend to have crushed the seventh and most serious coup attempt since Aquino gained power nearly four years ago. But today, nearly 400 rebellious elite Scout Rangers controlled some Makati district buildings, including luxury hotels, banks, shopping malls and offices of foreign embassies.

"The economy of the country is in our hands," said rebel Capt. Alberto Yen, a commander of the Rangers.

**Closed**

He said as long as the stock markets were closed, the country, already facing a \$28 billion foreign debt, "is losing millions every day." The country's stock exchanges remained closed today.

"We are in the best position," Yen said, adding he did not believe the government would bomb Makati.

At dawn today, some mutineers opened fire at two government helicopter gunships that circled Makati. A general's aide, on the scene to survey the situation, was wounded.

Snipers also fired at a radio station car and at a Red Cross ambulance that tried to enter the Makati district. A fire-fighter and a woman were wounded in rebel gunfire, which also damaged a transformer and cut power to the area before the gunfire, which also damaged a transformer and cut power to the area before the gunfire subsided this evening.

Col Rafael Galvez, 42, leader of the mutineers in Makati, told United Press International at the luxurious Intercontinental Hotel, "We will not leave the place. We have no other option."

One US citizen, Jerome Weisburg, 59, was shot and wounded at the Manila Peninsula hotel while in a glass elevator, a hotel employee reported today. It was the first known US casualty since the rebellion began. Weisburg's hometown and conditions were not known.

Also today, an explosion struck the compound of the Philippine Central Bank. There were no injuries.

A second bomb went off in the Ermita entertainment district, damaging an unoccupied minibus and shattering windows. Two women were injured by flying glass.

Tourism undersecretary Rafael Alunan in a radio broadcast called for "the immediate

WASHINGTON, Dec 4, (Reuters): The United States sees no need for further military intervention on behalf of Philippine President Corazon Aquino because her government appears to have survived a coup attempt, a Bush administration official said today.

"We do not see the need for further US military action" in the Philippines, said the official, who asked not to be identified. "Things seem calm there."

The official said no elements of the large US military contingent based in the Philippines had been involved in any direct anti-coup efforts since last Friday and Saturday, when American F-4 Phantom jets flew air cover for troops loyal to Aquino on orders from President George Bush.

US officials said earlier the American planes never had to fire a shot in carrying out Bush's limited order to prevent rebel planes from taking off or repeating earlier attacks on Aquino's presidential palace while loyalist government troops tried to put down the uprising by renegade military units.

The Aquino government has since asserted repeatedly that the rebellion had effectively been crushed, but reports from the Philippines say some fighting continues.

The administration official was responding today to questions from Reuters on whether the US air cover was still being provided.

The official said it was not, and no further such military action appeared necessary although future action in response to changing conditions could not be ruled out.

Bush and Secretary of State James Baker, both en route home from Bush's superpower summit in the Mediterranean with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, have said the United States would not waver in its support of Aquino.

The official also confirmed that the initial US crisis aid for Aquino, which Bush portrayed as essential to support a beleaguered democracy in a strategic area, included some arms and medical supplies in addition to the air cover.

"One thousand pounds of medical supplies from existing stocks at US bases were provided directly to the Philippine military for use at its military hospitals," the source said.

Some anti-tank rockets and small arms were also provided to loyalist forces under existing military assistance programmes from stocks on hand at US bases in the Philippines.



A pro-government soldier rests with his rifle while a Red Cross ambulance is brought before Philippine Air Force chief Maj. Gen. Loven Abodia (2nd right) shortly after his arrest yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Lt. Col. Remilino Goho (left), a former presidential security officer and a cousin of Honasan, is brought before Philippine Air Force chief Maj. Gen. Loven Abodia (2nd right) shortly after his arrest yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

release" of all guests caught by the fighting inside Makati's hotels.

"Let us not create further tension among our foreign guests who are not involved in this struggle you are fighting for," Alunan said.

**Echoed**

Makati was ringed by loyalist troops and tanks, and the rattle of heavy machine-gun fire echoed through the streets normally jammed with cars.

In the morning, the estimated 390 rebel holdouts in Makati, members of the army's first Scout Ranger regiment, refused appeals to surrender and fired at soldiers and civilians who

approached their strongholds.

A rebel leader, Lt. Col. Rafael Galvez, told a reporter late yesterday, "We will continue to fight until we get our political objective," the resignation of Aquino.

The mutinous soldiers claim Aquino, swept to power in a 1986 military-civilian uprising that ousted president Ferdinand Marcos, has failed to deal effectively with the country's communist insurgency and economy problems. This is the sixth and most serious attempt to overthrow her.

One of the coup leaders was Gregorio "Gingo" Honasan, a cashed-out lieutenant colonel who once supported Aquino but later

led an August 1987 attempt to overthrow her. He remained at large.

The city's international airport reopened today, but domestic air service was indefinitely postponed. Schools were closed, but government employees were ordered to return to work except in the Makati area.

**Shorages**

Officials reported shortages of food and fuel from interruptions caused by the fighting.

In Manila, guards arrested an army sergeant who tried to bomb a news conference held by Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos and military chief Gen. Renato de Villa, an official said today.

## Coup disrupts luxuries

MANILA, Dec 4, (UPI): Frightened guests milled around the luxurious Hotel Intercontinental Manila lobby today asking if cars were available to take them to the airport as mutineers walked by cradling assault rifles.

The Manila International Airport, closed since the worst coup attempt against President Corazon Aquino broke out shortly after midnight Thursday, reopened today.

But there were no limousines or air-conditioned vans to take trapped guests out of their opulent hotels in the Makati financial district. The drivers were unable to report.

"What is the Philippine government doing for the tourists?" a frantic Canadian woman in the Gilardi apartments asked a local radio station. "We're really, really scared. We're going to be dead if the US sends troops."

The sudden cause of concern was published reports that US President George Bush would take additional action if US lives were endangered.

The Bush statement was issued in Valletta, Malta, on Sunday at the conclusion of a shipboard summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. It came in a letter to the US Congress explaining his decision to send US Phantoms to make symbolic flights to crush the coup—the seventh and bloodiest Aquino faced.

"If Cory can take refuge in US F-4 Phantoms, we can take refuge in expensive real estate," said Capt Danilo Lim, 34, who looks more like a professor with his spectacles than a scout ranger.

Capt Alberto Yen promised hotel guests will never be taken hostages.

"That is terrorism. We will never do that. I am willing to die with that statement," said the strapping Yen, who like Lim is a member of the elite scout rangers battle tested in battles against communist insurgents and Muslim separatists.

Yen vehemently evaded questions of whether the mutineers would shoot US guests if Bush sends in the marines, 100 of whom now are guarding the seafloor US embassy several miles away from Makati.

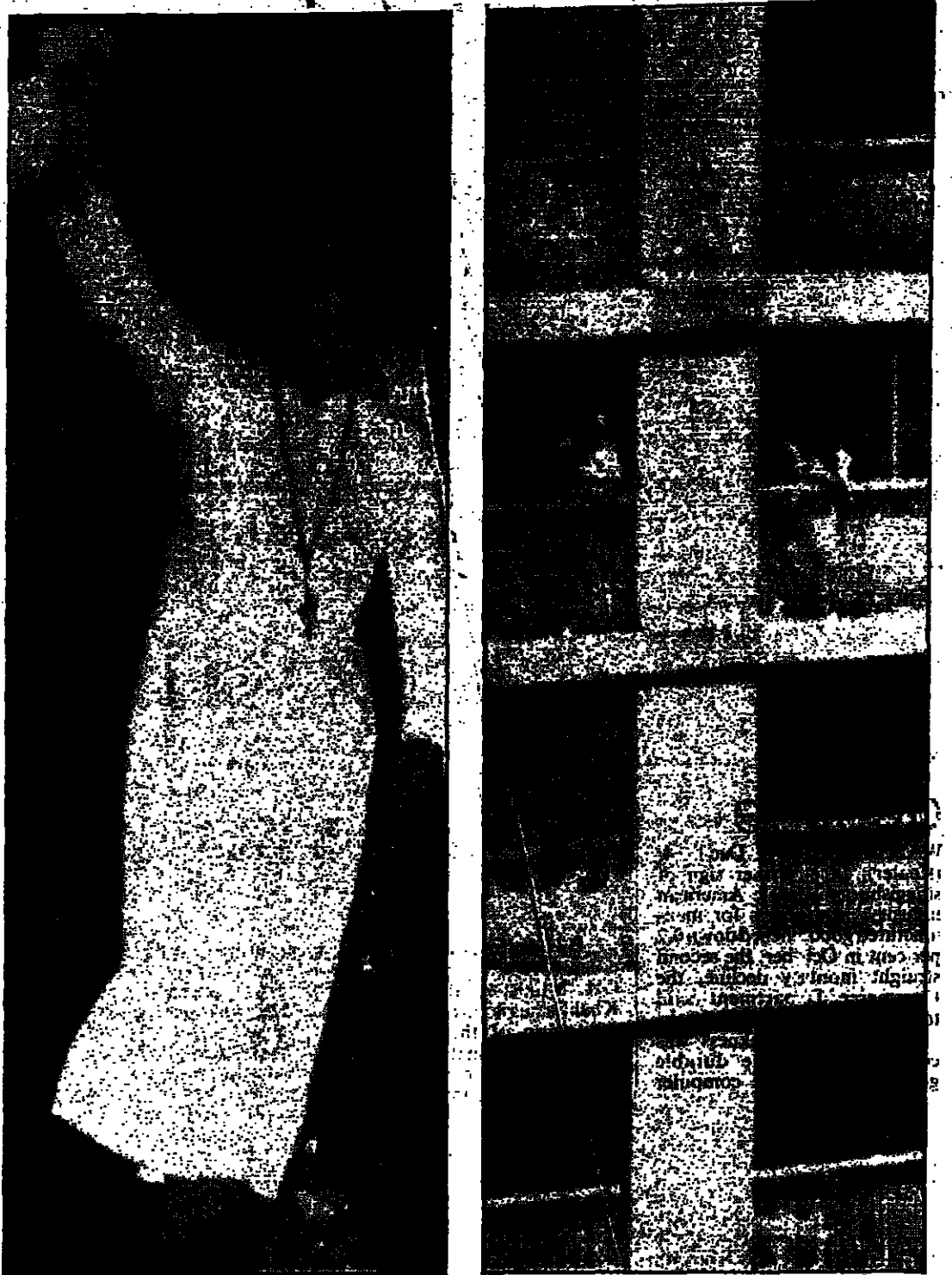
Staffers said there were more than 2,000 foreigners in four swank hotels where the mutineers had deployed. Aside from the Intercontinental, the others were the Mandarin, the Nikko Manila Garden Hotel and the Manila Peninsula.

At nightfall, police said the mutineers had been driven away from the Mandarin.

In response to irate callers to radio news shows, the government released a statement saying it had been unable to evacuate the foreigners in Makati because of sniper fire.

"Snipers are shooting at anything that moves. Evacuation at the moment only places lives unnecessarily in danger," the statement said.

The rebels had been routed by the government and are making a



Philippine Bishop Teodoro Bacani waves a white handkerchief after negotiating with army rebels occupying a building in Manila. (Reuters wirephoto)

Foreign residents holed up in a high rise apartment building in the heart of Manila financial district, where rebels made a last stand. (Reuters wirephoto)

Philippine Bishop Teodoro Bacani waves a white handkerchief after negotiating with army rebels occupying a building in Manila. (Reuters wirephoto)

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## Manila now a beggar 5 generals involved in coup bid

(Continued from Page 1)

our country and all those we hold dear."

He said they wanted to rescue the country from a "corrupt and criminal government."

He said Aquino appointed government officials who were corrupt and incompetent, while the leadership of the armed forces was "ambitious and inept."

Honasan, who helped lead the military revolt in 1986 which led to the ousting of the late president Ferdinand Marcos after a "people power" revolution spearheaded by Aquino, said Aquino had betrayed the aims of the revolt.

"In a matter of months, we saw the hopes of our revolt betrayed and squandered," he said.

Honasan was among the leaders of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM), a faction secretly organised by young

officers in the early 1980s to work for military reforms in the Armed Forces.

The group wanted an end to military corruption as well as the retirement of over-aged generals whom Marcos had kept on to ensure military loyalty to him.

Honasan accused Aquino of allying himself with Communists, and said she had "surrounded herself with corrupt relatives and officials whose crimes she was ever ready to defend and absolve."

"She divided the nation, destroyed the tradition of political civility and the most basic norms of Christian and national solidarity," he said.

The rebels said they wanted to remove Aquino and create a national governing council.

On Saturday night, chief justice Marcelo revealed that Honasan's group offered him the role of interim president, but he



Col. Gregorio Honasan

refused.

The Times quoted government sources as saying those who would have been included in the council were Vice President Salvador Laurel, opposition Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, Archbishop of Manila Cardinal Jaime Sin, and former Aquino spokesman Senator Rene Saguisag.

5 generals involved in coup bid

MANILA, Dec 4, (Reuters): Up to 6,000 soldiers led by five generals took part in the weekend army coup attempt against Philippine President Corazon Aquino the Senate Defence Committee chairman said today.

Senator Ernesto Maceda in a press statement linked 30 other senior officers to the four-day mutiny. He did not identify the generals or the other officers.

Military spokesmen earlier estimated the number of rebel soldiers at about 2,000.

The military said yesterday it had crushed the revolt but hundreds of mutineers remained entrenched in luxury apartment blocks in Manila's Makati financial district today, defying ultimatums to surrender.

Maceda said four major army units were involved in the coup attempt, including an elite Scout Ranger regiment and the Air Force Second Air Division based on Cebu island in the central Philippines.

## Aquino may survive now but coup threats will continue to haunt her

MANILA, (Reuters): Philippine President Corazon Aquino may have won her latest battle with rebellious soldiers but coup threats will haunt her until she deals decisively with the causes of dissension in her army, political analysts say.

Aquino faces a long-term challenge from a breed of young officers who helped sweep her to power in 1986 but who now believe she has betrayed the idealism and aims of that revolution.

They are dismayed by the corruption around them and what they see as Aquino's weak style of leadership.

Although small in number, they feed off disillusionment with the president among the

middle classes, one of Aquino's main bases of support, and enjoy widespread sympathy in the 160,000-strong armed forces.

"I have a strange feeling (this) latest coup may not necessarily be the last one," Teodoro Benigno, Aquino's former spokesman, said in a commentary in the Philippine Star newspaper on Monday.

If the president lapses back into the same languid, rapid, flat-chested style of ruling the country there could be another coup by a group that might get the okay of America. And this next coup could do her in."

Former president Ferdinand Marcos cut the military's constitutional moorings in 1972 when, nearing the end of his term, he pro-

claimed martial law.

For 14 years until Marcos was overthrown, the military enjoyed unprecedented power in towns and provinces, although its conservative generals still believed unwaveringly in civilian supremacy over the armed forces.

An elite pack of officers tasted power in 1986 by launching the revolt that toppled Marcos. They believe the civilian leadership must now earn the loyalty of its army, or face the consequences.

In a land that had never known a coup d'etat, Aquino has faced six military revolts, each bloodier than the last.

Gregorio "Gingo" Honasan, a charismatic colonel sacked by Aquino after he

almost toppled her in a mutiny in August 1987, said the latest revolt was intended to rid the country of a corrupt government.

"We have no plan or desire to run the government," Honasan said in a statement sent to media offices. "But we believe the military can be an effective instrument in helping install a competent collective leadership that will guarantee good government."

While Aquino herself has a clean image, she is coming under mounting attack from big business, the media and church for allegedly tolerating corruption around her and for failing to provide strong leadership needed to weed out incompetent officials.

"She has to impose discipline, make changes in the military leadership and in her cabinet," said a Manila businessman who asked not to be identified. "Otherwise the threats from her army will continue."

"The military responds to commands. Probably it misses the master's voice."

Aquino, who pardoned some leaders of previous coup attempts while military courts meted out relatively light penalties, promised to exact retribution from the leaders of the latest mutiny.

"We shall hunt down and bring to justice the treacherous cowards who launched this attack," she said on Saturday.

Political scientist Carolina Hernandez said

the coup plotters rode on legitimate grievances against the government, such as corruption and increasing prices of commodities.

"The plotters claim to have the nation's good in mind but their personal agenda is hidden," Hernandez said.

Although the estimated 2,000 mutineers comprise only a fraction of the entire armed forces, political analysts say they enjoy extensive sympathy from about half of the military rank and file.

"They might not be in the majority, but they're a critical mass and they are active. They are learning and they are waiting. They have spread the political infection," one analyst said.

مكتبة الامم المتحدة



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Business and economic scene

## Economic growth expected to slow down in 1990

BEFORE attempting to project the developments in 1990 it would be preferable to summarise the major features of the world economic scene that prevailed in 1989.

Growth slowed down in the industrial countries of North America, Europe and Japan. Growth in GDP is expected to decline from 4.2 per cent in 1988 to 3.3 per cent in 1989.

In the US, the slowdown was quite clear with the economy showing signs of weakness, particularly in manufacturing. This slowdown was due to the Federal Reserve tightening policy which started early in 1988 and continued till the middle of 1989. It is part of the attempt by the Fed to achieve a soft landing in 1989 and to guarantee its continuation in 1990. As a result of this strict monetary stance one can safely say that inflationary forces are contained and are currently under control. As a result, the expected growth rate for 1989 is 2.9 per cent compared to 4.4 per cent in 1988 while the expected

rate of inflation (measured by the consumer price index) for the whole of 1989 is 4.9 per cent compared to 4.1 per cent for 1988.

The US trade balance has been steadily improving. The slowdown in domestic demand reflected itself in a slower growth of imports, while exports boomed due to the lagged J-curve effect of the previous dollar depreciation. By the end of 1989 the trade balance is expected to reach \$110 billion compared to \$127 billion in 1988. The US dollar is undergoing a correction at the end of 1989 after a very strong year. Contrary to all expectations, the US exchange rate continued to soar up to the third quarter of 1989. The currency resisted all efforts to bring it down, backed as it was by a favourable interest rate differential and the general view of the US as the "safe haven" among political turmoil in Japan, W. Germany and the UK. However, it yielded in the end to the co-ordinated efforts of the major

central banks, returning it within its range against the DM. If not then, according to Industrial Bank of Kuwait's study on world economy.

Finally, the federal budget deficit seemed to be on shaky grounds and fiscal 1989 showed negligible improvement in the deficit compared to fiscal 1988. Thus, in 1989 the budget deficit reached \$152 billion compared to \$155 billion in 1988.

The West German economy experienced robust growth in 1989, probably its strongest performance since 1976. The sources of this strong performance are to be found in both booming business investment and rising exports. Thus, growth is expected to be around 4.0 per cent in 1989, a record for the decade, compared with 3.6 per cent in 1988 which was then thought of as exceptional.

This growth performance was bound to generate inflationary pressures which led the Bundesbank to take a strict stance. During 1989 it pushed up both the discount rate and

the Lombard rate three times to reach 6 per cent and 8 per cent respectively. The rate of inflation is expected to hover around 3 per cent for 1989 compared with 1.5 per cent in 1988.

While one could conclude that inflation in West Germany is currently under control, it is still a latent danger and its battle is not yet over. The trade surplus continued to grow due to strong growth in Europe and the weakness of the DM. This, in 1989, the trade surplus is expected to reach DM145 billion compared with DM128 billion in 1988.

Finally, 1989 saw a weak DM which was undergoing a correction at the end of the year. The only explanation that can be provided for such contradictory behaviour is a political one: apprehension about the effects of the political flux in E. Germany outweighed the attractions of a robust economy with a healthy current account surplus.

Japan, similarly, experienced

strong growth with GDP growth expected to increase by 4.5 per cent this year. This outstanding performance, for the third year running, finds its explanation in booming domestic demand, both consumption and investment. The natural result of this strong growth is accelerating inflation which increased from less than 1 per cent in 1988 to 3 per cent in 1989.

This pushed the Japanese Central Bank to raise the discount rate twice to reach 3.75 per cent in 1989. We believe that the inflation potential is still there in Japan and the creature could easily slip out of its cage if there occurs any wavering in alertness.

1989 witnessed a very weak yen, yet the trade balance was being reduced faster than expected. Strong domestic demand reflected itself in the high growth of imports while a weak yen did not boost exports due to the lagged J-curve effect of its previous appreciation. In 1989 the trade surplus is expected to reach \$84

billion compared with \$95 billion in 1988.

The UK was the weakest link in the world economy. Growth was very weak with the growth rate for 1989 expected to hover around 2 per cent. The economy was plagued with inflation that reached 8.3 per cent in June. While the inflation tempo has started to slow down, the battle is not over yet. The expected rate for the whole year is expected to be around 7.5 per cent.

Having summarised the situation in 1989, we now move to see what are the prospects for 1990. However, before going into expectations for 1990, we should mention some of the factors that are bound to influence developments in the coming year.

**Turmoil in Eastern Europe**

"We believe that the events that took place in 1989 in Eastern European countries will have far-reaching consequences for Europe and the US, whether in the short- or the long-run. While the short-run

effects are more important and structural, we are more interested here in the short-run. The immediate effect on West Germany lies in the influence of the flow of East German immigrants. Such a flow would lead to more investment and consumption expenditure to accommodate and absorb the newcomers. This would be an important factor in speeding the momentum of domestic demand. Moreover, the German government is committed to aid and, in particular, to large direct investment in both Poland and Hungary. The new federation between East and West Germany, proposed by Chancellor Kohl, would have effects on both trade and investment," the study said.

The effects of the liberation of Eastern European countries will also have serious consequences for the EEC's plans for economic integration by 1992. The structure that may emerge will be different, particularly if it includes a united Germany.

Moreover, both Poland and Hungary might ask to join. However, this development is not of direct relevance to our projections for 1990.

Both immediate and long-term effects of Eastern European events on the US can be categorised by lower defence expenditure on the one hand and more scope for trade, i.e. a market for US exports, on the other. Moreover, for the rest of the OECD countries, Eastern Europe offers an attractive market for their products.

The second factor to be taken into account are the earthquake and hurricane that took place in the US in 1989 and their devastating effects. This will mean reconstruction activity and hence an upsurge in the construction industry in 1990. As an important component of overall investment, we expect it to have a significant impact on the growth of domestic demand.

The third important factor will be

(Continued on Page 14)

### American factory orders decline

WASHINGTON, Dec 4, (Reuters): In a further sign of sluggishness in basic American industry, new orders for manufactured goods inched down 0.2 per cent in October, the second straight monthly decline, the Commerce Department said today.

Of the weakness was concentrated in the durable goods sector, where computer and auto equipment orders fell sharply. But healthy demand for non-durables, like food and chemicals, helped temper the October fall.

The order slump buttressed other reports showing a sluggish pace of growth in the manufacturing sector, where production and employment have dropped off. Last week the National Association of Purchasing Management said that the manufacturing sector's growth in November, the straight monthly decline.

The October factory order rate was in line with economists' expectations and the financial markets showed little reaction to the report.

Economists believe the Federal Reserve may have to relax credit in order to prevent the slump from worsening.

### Malaysia trade fair planned

UNDER the patronage of Faisal Al Khalid, Kuwait's Minister of Commerce and Industry, the embassy of Malaysia will organise the "Malaysia Trade Fair 1989" at the Kuwait International Hotel from Dec 9 to 11, 1989. Visiting hours will be from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm and 4.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

Abdulla Al Hamad, under-secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry will open the Trade Fair on Dec 9 at 9 am.

About forty Malaysian companies will exhibit more than 400 products. Among them are toys and sports goods, office and household furniture, stationery, telephone and accessories, auto spare parts, tomato and chilly sauce, rubber products, canned and bottled foodstuffs, shoes, handicrafts etc. Importers and the public are invited to the fair.

The highlight of the fair will be the "Malaysia Investment seminar" that will be held on Dec 10, 1989, at 11.00 am at the Grand Ball Room of the Kuwait International Hotel. The main speaker will be Dato' Ahmad Saif bin Abdul Hamid, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Trade and Industry and leader of the Malaysian delegation.

Interested Kuwaiti entrepreneurs are invited to attend the seminar. Further enquiries (Tel: 2546022/2546213; Telex: 22540 WKMLAY KT; Fax: 2544502).

## Sheikh Ali orders to cut crude output

By Mahmoud Abedin

OIL Minister, Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa has issued orders for the reduction of the Kuwait oil production from its current level of 1.65 million barrels a day to the new Opec quota for Kuwait of 1.5 million, a senior Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, KPC, official announced yesterday. Deputy marketing manager in the western hemisphere at KPC, Abdullah Al Roumi said that the new production level will be effective for six months from January 1.

Addressing a press conference yesterday, the official expressed Kuwait's total commitment to the last Opec production quota agreement, in which Kuwait's daily quota was raised to 1.5 million barrels. Al Roumi said that the cut in oil production in

Total commitment to Opec pact

accordance with the new quota won't affect Kuwait's long-term contracting partners, whether in oil products, crude oil or gas.

Al Roumi said that Kuwait will use three main ways to achieve the required reduction, on top of them reducing or even suspending sales in the oil spot market. Efforts will be made to reduce the quantities of oil refined locally by about 100,000 barrels a day, while the third attempt would be to buy some quantities of crude oil from foreign markets, when needed, for Kuwait owned refineries outside Kuwait. Al Roumi added that Kuwait will abide by the new Opec agreement preconditions to the commitment of other Opec members, with the exception of UAE, which had some reservations on the agreement.

UAE demanded a bigger production quota than Kuwait, but Opec agreed to grant a similar quota to Kuwait.

But Al Roumi said that Kuwait's new quota is perhaps not absolutely suitable or just, if Kuwait's production capability and its oil reserves are considered, "but we agree on it and will prove to other Opec members that we are committed to it as we only want Opec agreement."

Al Roumi said that Kuwait was one of the first countries to call for an Opec agreement on oil production quota and we have worked for it. We accepted previous Opec agreements but we had reservations on the previous quota agreement. He revealed that Kuwait oil production reached at times to about two million barrels a day. He said

that the local refineries will be supplied with 835,000 barrels a day and that some units of the old refineries will be stopped.

Al Roumi expected that oil prices will stabilise at their present level of about \$18 a barrel in the coming period, adding that Kuwait wants oil prices to stabilise around this price for the next two years. He said that "so far we have not seen any basic differences about the new production quota and production ceiling," but some oil producing countries with low oil reserves want higher prices.

Al Roumi said that some non-Opec oil producing countries are showing readiness to co-operate with Opec, but the increase in world demand and other natural factors, have greatly helped in stabilising the oil market.

## Berada in Kuwait talks Morocco seeks Kuwaiti investors

By Khaled Ahmad

VISITING Moroccan Finance Minister, Mohammed Berada announced in Kuwait yesterday that the Moroccan parliament will be looking shortly into a draft bill allowing the Moroccan and foreign private sector to own over a 100 government-owned companies. He said that the new move comes within the new Moroccan economic policy, which the country started implementing a year ago.

Speaking at a meeting hosted by the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry yesterday, the minister said that a decree will be issued later to explain ways of transferring the public companies into the private sector. The minister added that 10 per cent of these companies shares will be sold to the employees of the companies, 20 per cent to the foreign capital and the remaining 70 per cent to the Moroccan private sector.

Finance Minister, Jasssem Al Khorafi, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Abdul Aziz Al Sager, deputy chairman, Mohammed Abdul-Mohsen Al Khorafi and other businessmen and officials attended the meeting. The main object of the meeting was to introduce available investment opportunities in Morocco to Kuwaiti businessmen. Opening the meeting, Al Sager said that after the visit of the Moroccan Minister, the chamber arranged the meeting for the great concern we are showing towards investments in Morocco. He said that Morocco is one of the first Arab countries to pioneer the idea of opening its doors for Arab invest-

ments. He said that Kuwait has distinguished role in employing its capital in Arab investments. He said that there are many evidences for this in Morocco itself. Al Sager said that the question whether to invest in Arab countries or not has been totally settled in favour of investing Arab money in Arab countries and the question which should be answered now is why most of Arab funds flow to outside Arab countries and what we actually need in the Arab world to change this position.

Then the minister spoke about investment opportunities available for foreign investors in Morocco. He said that his country faced a number of financial difficulties from the beginning of the 80s, mainly resulting from external factors. He added that since 1983, the Moroccan government began implementing a serious economic reform policy primarily aimed at restoring financial balances and facilitating private investments. He added that the policy was centred on cutting public expenditures, developing internal resources, reducing the influence of external economic factors, liberalising foreign trade, modernising laws for promoting private investments and others.

The minister said that this economic policy yielded important and encouraging results, mainly having a stronger control on budget and salaries of public officials. He said that as a result, budget deficit dropped from 12 per cent of the gross domestic product in 1982 to just 4.4 per cent in 1988 and the balance of payments achieved a good balance in 1988 after it made a 13 per cent deficit

in 1982. He added that Morocco has also introduced development plans between years 88-92, in which huge investments opportunities have been allocated to the private sector to make it the main force in development. He said that the plan provided 32 per cent of the investments to the private sector against 48 per cent to the state, public sector and local groups investments.

He said that the liberal economic policy which has long been adopted in the country, the great efforts made by the state for the completion of the infrastructure in almost all fields, coupled with the government laws and legislations for private investments, have greatly promoted and magnified the role of the private sector in Morocco's investments.

The minister said that the Moroccan investment legislations provide investors a number of financial, tax and customs facilities in addition to legal guarantees. He stressed that the legislations treat all investors, irrespective of nationality, on equal footing with Moroccan investors. This applies to both Arab and foreign investors. Non-Moroccan investors have the added advantage of guarantees to transact their capitals and profits outside the country. He said that investors, foreign and Moroccan, can avail of the facilities provided by the law directly and without any delay. He said that according to instructions issued by King Hassan II, Moroccan ministries and departments must reply to investors applications in two months time, and failure to do so will be considered as a positive reply in favour of the investors.

## W. German markets advance Gold softens

LONDON, Dec 4, (Reuters): West Germany's currency and stocks advanced today as investors sought to cash in on the business bonanza expected from East Germany.

The Frankfurt bourse jumped by 1.4 per cent while the mark gained more than half a penny against the dollar.

"We are still seeing the same firm trend for the mark," one dealer in Frankfurt said.

News that West Germany's industrial output fell one per cent in October from September failed to dampen enthusiasm.

"1989 growth is still seen at four per cent," one West German dealer said.

The mark ended in London at 1.767 to the dollar after 1.767 on Friday.

That was higher than at any time this year in London but the first day of trading, January 3, when it ended at 1.763.

"The mark may need fresh factors to rise to the year's high," said Tsuneo Ohmori, senior manager at Saswa Bank's foreign exchange section in London.

Bank's foreign exchange section, given a long-term outlook for firm interest rates and favourable economic prospects as developments in East Germany unfold.

Economists believe the continued liberalisation in East Germany, where the Communist Party's ruling Politburo and central committee resigned on Sunday, will boost

demand for West German goods and services.

Shares in Frankfurt ended 21.87 points higher on the DAX index at 1,634.31.

"There was real sense of East euphoria again today," said one dealer, adding that large foreign orders, notably from Britain and Japan, had supported prices.

The dollar was barely moved by the weekend rumour that US President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Dealers said news last Friday of 0.4 per cent drop in the United States' leading economic indicators in October had fuelled speculation that US interest rates could be eased to offset the slowdown in economic growth.

The dollar closed in London at 143.40 Japanese yen after 143.25.

Share prices in London gave up early gains as Wall Street held little changed during the morning session in New York.

London's Financial Times-Stock Exchange of 100 leading shares closed 7.7 points lower at 2,303.4.

Gold closed weaker at \$406.50 an ounce in London after finishing Friday at \$413.25.

Bullion dealers said the market had come under pressure from earlier Japanese selling and rumours of possible Soviet sales.

## Japan, EEC flay US trade laws

GENEVA, Dec 4, (Reuters): Japan and the European Economic Community today indirectly criticised unilateral US action on trade disputes, delegates attending the annual assembly of the Gatt world trade forum said.

The meeting is being held at the Geneva headquarters of the 96-member General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to survey the state of world commerce and current global negotiations.

Delegates said no one specifically named the United States, but they added it was clear the target was the 1988 US trade act which contains measures permitting Washington to retaliate directly against nations it considers to be unfair traders.

"Trade barriers vis-a-vis outsiders are effectively raised in comparison to the countries within the regional group," Hatano said.

## IMMIGRATION WHY CANADA?

Immigration to Canada is as simple as filling in an application form. Well, not that simple if you don't do it properly.

Of course, the first thing to ask yourself is, "Why Canada?" Canada, one of the world's most successful nations, was originally the land of the Red Indians and then colonised by some entrepreneurial French. Next, the English came and finally a confederated Canada was born in 1867. Canada has become today a tapestry of nationalities and cultures. One united nation of different races, creeds and cultures. A lesson for the rest of the world that men can live in peace under one flag.

A cursory glance at some of its leaders will show the extent to which racial and cultural integration has been successful. Just to mention a few, the premier of British Columbia is from Holland, the premier of Prince Edward Island is from Lebanon, the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia is of Chinese extraction, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario is a black Jamaican and our Prime Minister Brian Mulroney is of Irish origin.

There is no national physical type, no obviously Canadian way. Their incredibly diverse racial components cannot be reduced to a mere logo. This is a people who escapes definition. This is a country which is in itself a global village.

You don't have the question, are you a foreigner in Canada. But even so, the answer is that we all are, in some way.

It's very different from the United States. There you come in with your country identity and you swap it for a citizen's badge which makes you as American as apple pie. In Canada, the official position is to protect the heritage of the immigrants; to recognise that parts of their personalities are fundamentally indelible; to encourage self-respect by supporting the continuance of what was valuable in the culture of their homeland. The government financially supports the development and preservation of this cultural diversity.

The features of Canada which make it an attractive place to live are well documented: the neutral and unobtrusive policy of tolerance, the four-seasoned climate, the spectacular geography. However, the most attractive thing about Canada, to many applicants, is its quality of life. You won't get mugged walking down the streets of any of the large metropolitan centres.

It may come as a surprise but the immigration process is rather straightforward. The applicant fills in a four-page form giving all the relevant details and then sends it to the Canadian Embassy in Kuwait to be processed. Ironically enough, there is absolutely nothing a consultant can do to accelerate the processing. That's funny coming from an immigration consultant but it's the truth. Your application is processed by the number and according to the date when you arrived in Canada. You have to find a job, set up a business, find accommodation. And you have to cover your expenses during this time. An average family of five, for instance, might need about \$34,000 per month to live in Toronto. \$33,000 for Montreal, \$32,000 to live in Halifax and \$34,000 to cover expenses in Vancouver. By the way, do not eat car on a daily basis. Clearly, where you choose to live is important and should be carefully thought out before-hand. With the cost of the ticket and the cost of establishing yourself, an estimated six months "living over period" might cost up to \$40,000 or even \$50,000 for such a family.

So it is not just a question of packing up your troubles in your old kit bag and heading for the airport. You need to do some homework. Get informed about Canada. Read books, pamphlets, anything you can get hold of. The Embassy in Kuwait is a good starting place, or even a public library. It is like any serious investment. Learn as much as you can before you make a decision. Facts might prevent disappointment and costly surprises.

Keep in mind that immigration to Canada is not a kind of insurance policy. One foot in Canada and one in the Gulf is not going to get you very far. You can't just be accepted there and visit the country on an intermittent basis. The government will stop the who-who. You have to set up residence in Canada, get your children into schools, work and live in the country. If you are caught using your immigration visa as a kind of multiple entry visa then you're in trouble.

Citizenship, that is, a Canadian passport, is granted after living in Canada for three out of four years. But there is no real difference between an immigrant and a Canadian citizen except that only the latter can vote. The same benefits apply to both categories.

Be careful. Canadians are a race with a strong sense of social responsibility. You are expected to pay your taxes and if you don't, you pay heavily for it. In exchange for your taxes you get all the benefits of Canada's comprehensive social programmes.

The taxes benefit everyone. You will be living in a secure society, be your taxes and if you don't, you pay heavily for it. In exchange for your taxes you get all the benefits of Canada's comprehensive social programmes.

The taxes benefit everyone. You will be living in a secure society, be your taxes and if you don't, you pay heavily for it. In exchange for your taxes you get all the benefits of Canada's comprehensive social programmes.

hours days in their dedication to this most important activity of this diplomatic mission. It's worth the wait. In fact, from the moment you fill out your application form until you get your visa can take up to two years.

Why not get the government to review its immigration budget? After all, they are the ones crying out for new immigrants. Write to the Hon. Barbara McDougall, Minister for Immigration, Ottawa, Canada. Not being fools themselves, the authorities do not expect income-earners to be fools.

Be warned of the psychological realities of uprooting yourself and family and adopting a new land, a new way of life. Experts speak of temporary amnesia about the way things were. Many people come to Canada because they have suffered either politically or socially. They often return for a visit to their home country because of the difficulties they have found in Canada, on the deceptive impulse that life was better before. They spend some time back "home" and begin to remember how good life was in Canada. Our brains tend to remember the good old times and exaggerate the day-to-day routine challenges.

Short-term thinking is a sure way to self-destruct in immigration. You can get caught. After three or four years in Canada, it is very hard to turn back. You have to leave your personal contacts and move again.

Canada needs professionals, businessmen and ordinary citizens. With a declining birth rate of 1.3, the government is accepting 125,000 to 150,000 immigrants a year. Unfortunately, although they are keen to have new immigrants, the government for one reason or another, has been unable to create more money or human resources to cope with a process in which so many are applying.

Although Canada encourages people to come there and set up their own business, the fact is that Canada is not for sale. The application form may be a simple one but the selection process is strict but fair.

People wishing to set up business in Canada are welcomed. Besides the mandatory three years experience in business management, there is a minimum requirement of proof of \$50,000 available for the business. Moreover, you must be able to present a feasibility study of your business proposal based on the type of business and the area in which you wish to live and work.

Immigration to Canada is often criticised as another brain-drain, particularly from Third World countries. Anyone who immigrates to Canada does so by his own choice. Any immigrant, when he arrives in a new country, comes as an ambassador. His political and social voice is deeply rooted in his background, especially in a country where freedom prevails. Indeed, his presence encourages the importing of goods from the country of origin. Immigrants, in fact, spread the word and spread the culture, particularly in Canada where cultural heritage is sacrosanct.

Thank you, Canada, for giving my parent immigrants in 1953 and thereby giving my family a home in a land of freedom and opportunity.

For more information on investment in Canada, the Canadian Embassy in Kuwait is holding the Dubai Money '89 Exhibition to be held at World Trade Centre from November 27 to 30, 1989.

more than \$1,500 per annum, have from medical services, and enjoy one of the most pleasant results of this taxation system in that government employees are at the service of all who live in Canada, without resorting to "wasta".

The gap between the rich and poor is also narrower than in most industrialised countries. In fact, 90 per cent of Canadians are middle class. Taxes are directly related to income. It is this system of tax by declaration of income that puts the responsibility on the citizen to be honest. Needless to say, the government is quick to check on those who try to evade taxes. A whole network of information about your income and expenditures can be summoned up and used in evidence against you. Not being fools themselves, the authorities do not expect income-earners to be fools.

Be warned of the psychological realities of uprooting yourself and family and adopting a new land, a new way of life. Experts speak of temporary amnesia about the way things were. Many people come to Canada because they have suffered either politically or socially. They often return for a visit to their home country because of the difficulties they have found in Canada, on the deceptive impulse that life was better before. They spend some time back "home" and begin to remember how good life was in Canada. Our brains tend to remember the good old times and exaggerate the day-to-day routine challenges.

Short-term thinking is a sure way to self-destruct in immigration. You can get caught. After three or four years in Canada, it is very hard to turn back. You have to leave your personal contacts and move again.

Canada needs professionals, businessmen and ordinary citizens. With a declining birth rate of 1.3, the government is accepting 125,000 to 150,000 immigrants a year. Unfortunately, although they are keen to have new immigrants, the government for one reason or another, has been unable to create more money or human resources to cope with a process in which so many are applying.

Although Canada encourages people to come there and set up their own business, the fact is that Canada is not for sale. The application form may be a simple one but the selection process is strict but fair.

People wishing to set up business in Canada are welcomed. Besides the mandatory three years experience in business management, there is a minimum requirement of proof of \$50,000 available for the business. Moreover, you must be able to present a feasibility study of your business proposal based on the type of business and the area in which you wish to live and work.

Immigration to Canada is often criticised as another brain-drain, particularly from Third World countries. Anyone who immigrates to Canada does so by his own choice. Any immigrant, when he arrives in a new country, comes as an ambassador. His political and social voice is deeply rooted in his background, especially in a country where freedom prevails. Indeed, his presence encourages the importing of goods from the country of origin. Immigrants, in fact, spread the word and spread the culture, particularly in Canada where cultural heritage is sacrosanct.

Thank you, Canada, for giving my parent immigrants in 1953 and thereby giving my family a home in a land of freedom and opportunity.

For more information on investment in Canada, the Canadian Embassy in Kuwait is holding the Dubai Money '89 Exhibition to be held at World Trade Centre from November 27 to 30, 1989.

### Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Dec 4, (KUNA): Following are the average K.D. interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.			
Period	Rate	Offered	
1 month	8-1/16	8-1/16	
3 months	8-1/16	8-1/16	
6 months	8-1/16	8-1/16	
1 year	8-1/16	8-1/16	

Indian rupee	17.480
Sri Lankan rupee	7.500
Pakistani rupee	9.120
Bangladesh taka	9.120
US dollar	29700
US dollar	46625
Found sterling	08084
US dollar	16745
Japanese yen	002075



## Qatar to sign \$400m loan

BAHRAIN, Dec 4, (Reuters): Qatar will sign a \$400 million loan to help finance development of its giant North Field gas reservoir on Dec 11, ending a nine-month delay, Gulf-based bankers said.

The bankers said a rise in oil prices since the three-year loan was first mooted had most likely alleviated the immediate need for financing through borrowing.

"Something happened to make the need to borrow disappear," one Gulf banker said.

"With oil prices firming, there was probably no pressure to conclude the deal," he said.

Mid-east oil prices have averaged at \$15-16 a barrel in 1989 compared with about \$13 the previous year.

Qatar National Bank, agent for Qatar General Petroleum Corp. (QGPC), would sign in Doha on behalf of the 60-odd banks taking part, the bankers said.

The loan, which was initially to have been signed in March, is priced at a margin of 22.5 basis points above the London Inter-bank Offered Rate (Libor).

Another reason for the delay was the country's inexperience with such large loans and several levels of authorisation had been required, the bankers said.

Qatar, a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), depends on oil revenue for most of its income and is producing around 350,000 barrels per day (bpd) of crude.

Earlier this year it was pumping about 400,000 bpd, well above its Opec-assigned quota of 329,000. The ceiling was raised to 346,000 bpd last month as part of an overall hike in Opec output for the fourth quarter of 1989.

QGPC general manager Jaber Al Marri was quoted as saying in October work on the North Field gas project was more than 60 per cent complete, with gas from two wells already tested.

He said the plan was to drill 16 wells in the first phase to produce 800 million cubic feet of gas a day, mainly for domestic use. A projected 50,000 barrels per day of gas liquids would also be processed for export.

KUWAIT, Dec 4, (Reuters): The state-owned Kuwait Investment Office (KIO) is to build a paper plant in Belgium at a cost of \$391 million, the official news agency Kuna said today.

It quoted a KIO statement in Madrid as saying the plant, scheduled to start production in 1992, would have an annual capacity of 192,000 tonnes of paper.

KIO said the investment would be made by the Spanish-Belgian paper company Celulosa de la Ardenas, which is owned by Madrid-based KIO subsidiary Torras Papel Co.

## New Indian government faces major economic problems

# First priority to curb rising prices

NEW DELHI, Dec 4, (Reuters): Mounting budget and trade deficits, deteriorating foreign reserves, rising prices and fears of political instability confront India's new National Front government, economists and businessmen say.

Vishwanath Pratap Singh, an aristocrat turned champion of the common man, was sworn in on Saturday as Prime Minister of a minority government whose survival is fraught with doubt.

"The coffers of the government are empty," Singh said in a televised address to the nation on Sunday. "Inflation has impoverished the people."

Singh said debts of under \$500 for the rural poor would be forgiven and half the government's resources would be invested in villages where most of India's 810 million people live.

"If power is a sword, it will be wielded on behalf of the poor and toiling masses," he said. His first priority would be to curb rising prices.

The National Front promised tax exemptions for middle income groups and more social welfare spending, plans economists said would further strain a widening budget deficit.

Businessmen expect Singh to continue outgoing Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's widely-lauded liberalisation policies.

"In their own interest, the new government should see to it that the country's economic growth is not derailed," said Jaswant Thakkar, former head of the Indian Merchant Chamber.

Singh was Gandhi's Finance Minister when many of the reforms were initiated. He was expelled from Gandhi's Con-

### Stock market stages a comeback

NEW DELHI, Dec 4, (Kuna): The stock market staged a smart comeback after election of VP Singh as Prime Minister of India.

"Marketers are of the view that Singh would follow pragmatic policies on the economic front, giving a boost to the industry. Singh, in his first speech after the assumption of premier post, said that he would give top priority to agro-based industries and this gave a boost to the stock market."

The post-election week was crucial for the stock market. Share prices moved down in the early parts of the last week when the election results failed to give clear majority to any political party. But when VP Singh was elected, the market reacted favourably.

Share market holders said that it was during VP Singh as Finance Minister during Rajiv Gandhi's government in 1985 that the stock market witnessed a boom. Various measures such as announcement of long-term economic policies and reduction in the tax structure adopted by him had resulted in rapid industrial growth in the country.

But Singh also shook up the business community by moving swiftly against tax evaders, currency violators, and the black economy, as well as trying to

"But fundamentally speaking, the economy is good, half-yearly corporate results are encouraging, and we have the benefit of a good monsoon," he said.

Singh heads a fragile minority government dependent on the support of two groups that reject each other — leftwing Marxist parties and the rightwing Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party.

He will be under pressure from populists in the Front to curb big business, slash foreign borrowing, and control foreign investment, businessmen said.

The Front's election manifesto called for "freeing the country from indiscriminate and highly-expensive technologies, the humiliating burden of fast-escalating foreign debt and the abject dependence on multinational corporations."

Gandhi's development strategy made the country increasingly subservient to foreign capital in order to satisfy the demand pattern of the affluent 10 per cent of the population," it said.

That kind of rhetoric worries businessmen.

"It has created a feeling of uncertainty reflected in nervousness on the markets," said Ramakrishna Bejjani, former president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Foreign investors will be wary for a while, Bombay broker Vallabhy Bhanasali said.

"Foreign investors would like to take a close look before putting their money in," he said.

The budget deficit rose to 79.4 billion rupees (\$5 billion) from 74.8 billion (\$4.6 billion) a year earlier, and is expected to widen even more because of election spending in the current financial year ending on March 31.

Official figures show the trade deficit rose to \$4.4 billion in 1988/89 from \$3.9 billion in 1987/88 pushing the current account deficit up to \$5.4 billion in 1988/89 from 4.5 billion a year earlier.

India's external debt at the end of 1988 was \$55 billion, said the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Foreign reserves as of November 17 had fallen to \$3.0 billion from 4.9 billion at the end of March — enough to finance two months of imports.

Gross domestic product growth was an estimated 9.0 per cent in 1988/89 after 3.6 per cent a year earlier, but could drop to 5-6 per cent in 1989/90, Western economists said.

### Iran unveils economic reform plan

# Fresh move to ease currency regulations

NICOSIA, Dec 4, (Reuters): Iran announced fresh measures today to bring its unofficial foreign exchange market under control, saying it was easing currency regulations for importers and travellers.

Open market dealers immediately suspended all trading and one London-based Iranian dealer said many could face heavy losses if, as expected, the rial rose against major currencies.

Iran's state-owned banks began selling dollars to many importers on October 8 at a new "competitive rate" to undercut open market dealers who thrived during the past decade of revolution and war against Iraq.

Central Bank Governor

Mohammad Hossein Adeli announced the new measures, including the sale of \$300 once a year to any person travelling abroad, on Tehran Radio.

"We intend to expand our plan to cover all the legitimate demand on the unofficial foreign exchange market," Adeli said.

"Only legitimate customers will then remain on the unofficial market and they will be treated according to the law."

President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has pinpointed the elimination of a multiple-rate foreign exchange system as a main goal of his economic reform programme.

Critics say the competitive rate, offered to an increasing number of businessmen, is too

high, making Iranian-made goods too expensive to compete against foreign products.

The competitive rate for the dollar, set daily by the Central Bank, has been 975 rials since October 24, down from 1,000 rials during the first three weeks of the plan.

The official rate, relevant only to state purchases of basic items, is about 72 rials per dollar.

Currency dealer Ali Pakpour told Reuters by telephone from London that today's announcement followed a steady rise in the open market rate for the dollar.

The measures he announced included:

■ State banks will charge

importers the rate at the day goods arrive in Iran if it is lower than the day they opened credit. This responds to criticism by businessmen that the downward trend of the competitive rate meant it paid for them to import rather than sooner.

■ State banks will also buy foreign exchange from Iranians. He gave no buying rates.

■ Some patients travelling abroad for medical treatment and some students will be able to buy limited amounts of foreign exchange at the competitive rate.

■ Foreign exchange will be sold at three more commercial state-owned banks — Mellat, Mellat and Sepah — in addition to Bank Tejarat and Bank Saderat.

## Israel and Soviets sign farm accord

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Dec 4, (AP): Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz said today that Israel and the Soviet Union have signed a \$30-million agricultural agreement which may eventually lead to a major change in Israel's agriculture.

Katz-Oz returned yesterday from a six-day visit to Moscow, the first such trip by an Israeli minister in at least 22 years. He was invited by the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

"I have got my shoes in the door and now it is going to remain open," he told reporters at the Ben-Gurion airport near Tel Aviv.

Katz-Oz, of the center-left Labour Party, said he met with members of the Supreme Soviet and officials from the Academy of Sciences and Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

"The Soviet Union is not conceding this visit, it wants that to be clear. But I don't want to call it a diplomatic breakthrough. I'm not working at the foreign ministry," Katz-Oz said.

The sides signed a \$30-million agreement stipulating export of 90,000 tons of fresh fruits and vegetables "starting with potatoes and ending with strawberries," to Moscow region, which consumes 2.5 million tons of food a year, Katz-Oz said.

He said the agreement was a barter deal in which a third party would sell Soviet goods for hard currency and transfer it to Israel.

"What's happening is that they have a whole list of products they want to export, but we don't need many of these products," he said.

The Israeli agricultural products would be transferred by Soviet cargo planes from the Ben-Gurion airport or by Soviet ships from the southern port of Ashdod to the port of Odessa on the Black Sea, and then by railroad to Moscow, Katz-Oz said.

Asked by Israel's army radio when the deal would come through, he said that "if the Soviets fulfil their promise and the first Soviet plane would land here on Dec 23, then on Dec 25 the products will be there."

## GATT sees decision next year

### Soviet observer status bid

GENEVA, Dec 4, (Reuters): The Soviet Union could attend GATT meetings if it were granted observer status but would probably not be able to take part in the world trade body's current four-year round of talks, a GATT official said today.

Member states of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade are holding their annual assembly in Geneva this week but any Soviet bid for observer status was unlikely to be considered before a meeting of the GATT council next February, the official said.

GATT, which sets the rules for four-fifths of the world's trade, is due to complete by December 1990 its Uruguay round of negotiations begun in Punta

del Este in 1986 and aimed at setting trading patterns for the next century.

"There is very little possibility that the Soviet Union could join the Uruguay round when it is more than three-quarters completed and has entered the home straight," the official said.

The Soviet Union made an unsuccessful bid to join the Uruguay round in 1986.

The United States blocked subsequent feelers by Moscow for observer status until last weekend's Malta summit when a US official said President George Bush was now prepared to support a Soviet application.

### Visa resumes card service for Petra Bank

AMMAN, Dec 4, (Reuters): Visa International, the US-based credit card company, has agreed to resume honouring cards issued by Jordan's Petra Bank, the bank announced today.

Petra Bank's government-appointed general manager Bassam Atari said in a statement that the accord took effect on November 27, three months after Visa suspended the service.

Visa stopped honouring cards issued by Petra Bank a few weeks after the Jordanian government took control of the bank under martial law regulations.

Jordanian officials have accused former Petra Bank head Ahmed Chalabi of large scale fraud and embezzlement. Chalabi, who fled the country in August, has

denied the charges.

Atari said Petra Bank had cancelled more than 6,000 of the original 8,550 Visa International and Visa golden cards held by its clients and would strictly control the use of valid cards.

He said Petra Bank had sent a circular to Visa cardholders calling on them to "exercise extreme caution and judgment to avoid violating Central Bank foreign currency controls."

Petra Bank's new management had settled substantial amounts of what he called inherited obligations towards Visa International and banks in several countries which used Petra Bank as processing and authorisation agent, Atari said.

## British reserves show slower fall

LONDON, Dec 4, (Reuters): Britain's reserves of gold and foreign currency fell by an underlying \$931 million in November, the government said yesterday.

The fall, much less than October's record \$2.9 billion drop, was seen as showing reduced Bank of England intervention in the foreign exchange markets to support the value of the pound sterling.

Economists said the latest figure indicated new Chancellor of the Exchequer John Major may be more inclined to let the pound fall than his predecessor, Nigel Lawson, who resigned at the end of October.

The British currency has slipped by 4.5 per cent, mainly due to the strength of the West German mark, since Major took over. Lawson was committed to high interest rates as a means of defending the pound.

But analysts warned that the fall in reserves may not reveal the true extent of official support for sterling, as the Bank of England could have sold the pound forward on the futures market.

### UK economy

Growth prospects in 1990 are definitely bleak. Significant weakening is expected. Both slowing domestic demand, due to tight monetary policy, and negative net exports will push growth rates downward. The annual growth rate is projected at 1.5 per cent compared to 2.2 per cent in 1989. The inflation rate, which started to slow down in the fourth quarter of 1989, will, as a result of the tight monetary stance, continue its deceleration but not by much. Inflation is projected to register between 5.5 per cent and 6 per cent in 1990, which remains a high rate. Thus, we expect monetary policy to remain tight, at least in the first half of 1990, until inflation clearly starts to slow down. Accordingly, rates are not expected to ease before then. The sterling situation is highly precarious and we expect it to remain weak throughout the year.

Before we end our projection, a word should be said on both the oil market and the international debt problem.

As far as international oil prices are concerned, we expect prices to remain stable at an average of \$18 per barrel. In actual fact we have two demand projections at hand. The first is that of Opec which estimates demand in the first half of 1990 at 22.5 million BPD. The independent demand projection estimates 1990 demand at 21.5 million BPD. We are inclined to favour the second estimate and we believe that the Opec figure overstates demand. Hence we expect the oil price to remain stable at \$18 per barrel in 1990.

Secondly, the market solutions to the international debt problem will gather speed in 1990. The Brady Plan has set the momentum. We expect that we will see more deals modelled along the lines put forward in the Brady Plan.

In summary, the major industrialized countries will see slower growth in 1990 compared with the previous year. Projected growth rates are as follows: the US, 1.9 per cent; W. Germany 3.3 per cent; Japan 4 per cent and the UK 1.5 per cent. Inflation is expected to moderate gradually throughout the year although in the high growth countries of Japan and W. Germany, it may stabilize at its 1989 level.

Accordingly, the average inflation rate in 1990 is expected to be 4.5 per cent in the US, 3 per cent in W. Germany, 2.5-3 per cent in Japan and 5.5-6 per cent in the UK. As a result, world-wide tight monetary conditions are expected to continue in the first half of 1990.

Given their strong economic growth rates, there is a possibility of an increase in both W. Germany and Japan with easing if any, occurring late in the year. When inflation pressures start to ease perceptibly, some gradual easing may occur in the second half on the part of the US and the UK. There will be a continued gradual improvement in the US and Japanese trade imbalances. However, the massive W. German trade surplus will probably stabilize around its 1989 level.

Oil prices are expected to be stable in 1990 at \$18 per barrel. Solutions to the international debt problem will continue to be put forward on an ad hoc basis based on the general lines of the Brady Plan.

Bahrain Stock Exchange prices (Rs) Dec 4				Hind Ciba			
ACC	Pr. Close	Open	Close	Hind Lever	104	105	108.50
Alm Chem	314	313.50	330	Hind Cocos	136.25	148	136.25
Alm Nit	—	—	—	Hind Motor	271.22	270	276.25
Alm Fab	—	—	—	Hindco	1515	1520	1560
Ashtek Ley	91.50	90	93	Igersoll	222.50	220	227.50
Asia Dist	202.20	205	203.75	ITC	65.75	66	66
Atlas Corp	44	42.50	44	Kia Org	44.75	45.25	49
Auto Corp	66	65	66	Ind Rayon	87	87	88
Nat Index	375.15	383.57	383.57	Indrol	185	185	195
Bajaj Auto	340	340	352.50	JYK	60	59	61
Bar Rayon	695	687.50	695	Khanna	132.50	132.50	135
Blow Plast	—	—	—	KSC Pump	192.50	185	192.50
Bom Dye	177	184	191	L & T	73	71	74
BK Bond	109	109	110	Lipton	92	92	93
Bur Wel	85	80	90	Mad Rused	17	165	172.50
Cashmere	—	—	—	Malindra	103	102	105
Con Enka	3300	3275	3325	Man Share	86.50	85.50	88
Index for 01/12	3630	2635	2610	Sen Gov	64.50	67.50	66
Con Spg	186.25	185	188.75	Shree Wall	—	—	—
Crom Gr	—	—	—	Shree Cen	—	—	—
DCM	14	14	13	Shri Fib	54.50	53	60
Deep Fert	28.25	28	31	Siemens	77	77	78
Electrol	72	72.50	72.50	SKF	102.50	102.50	103
El Hous	62	62	61	SACF	53.25	52	56.50
Esports	77.50	77	78	Si Mills	485	480	505
RSE Index	689.72	712	712.00	Tata Oil	82.50	83.75	85
Esakay	112.50	112.50	112.50	Tata Chem	119	118	121
Esar Spg	75	76	76.75	Tata Pow	36.25	37	37
Food Sp	106.25	107	108.75	Telcel	1022.5	1027.5	1045
Forbes	48.75	48.75	51.25	Thapp Agro	—	—	—
Ger Poly	48.50	49	49.25	Tisco	111.75	113	115.75
GHEFC	93.50	96	97	Vas Org	152	148	150
Gristin	113	115	119	Vas Org	152	148	150
Index for 01/12	51	50.50	51.85	Volas	890	880	900
GE Spg	183.75	182	187.75	Winco	20.75	20.50	19.50
Gu Alk	72.50	74	75	Zenith	56	54	56
Gu Heavy	19	18	19	Zuari Agro	58	58	58
Hero Honda	19	18	19				

Compiled by Kuwait-India International Exchange Co.

## Nikkei stock average: 37903.87

Nikkei stock average: 37903.87 (+171.19)			Matsumita Ind			2930	+60
Volume: 12.1 bil sh			Mab Electric			2320	0
Yes exchange rate: 143.48			Mazda M C			1000	-10
Name of stock			Mitsubishi Corp			1780	+30
Advanced Corp	4740	+290	Mitsubishi Est			2730	+70
Ajinomoto	2820	0	Mitsubishi H I			1210	+10
Alps Electric	1800	-20	Mitsui R E			3380	+150
Asada	2000	+50	Mizuno Corp			1950	0
Asahi Chem Ind	1270	+20	Mori Seiki Co			4090	-40
Asahi Glass	2370	+20	NEC Corp			1820	0
C. Itoh Co	1140	+10	Nikon Corp			1460	+20
Cannon Inc	1810	-10	Nippon Steel Co			1750	+30
Casio Comp	1480	0	Nippon Steel Corp			832	+7
D N Printing	2290	+10	Nipponsteel Ind			2390	+20
Daiichi Sanyaku	2780	-40	Nissanku Corp			1480	20
Dainippon Ph	2700	-20	Nomura Sec			3770	+120
Daiishiku Corp	1720	-10	Okuma Mach			1700	+20
Esai	2180	-10	Onward K Co.			2400	+30
Fanuc Ltd.	7400	+180	Orion Corp			6700	0
Fuji Photo	4480	+30	Pioneer Elec Co			5650	+180
Fujitsu Ltd.	1540	+30	Raychem Look Inc			2540	-10
Hitachi Credit	2000	0	Sanyo Elec Co.			929	+14
Hitachi Koki	1990	+20	Secom Co., Ltd.			6530	+90
Hitachi Ltd.	1580	+40	ShinEkin Chem			1760	-20
Hitachi Metal	1760	+20	Sony Corp			1290	+20
Honda Motor	1840	+20	Sony Corp			8430	+130
Ito Yokado Co	4620	0	Sumitomo Elec Ind.			1600	+20
Kajima Corp	1140	+40	Sumitomo Metal Ind.			895	+17
Kawasaki H I	1120	+20	Takeda Chemical			2320	0
Kobe Cast Iron	1200	+70	TDK Corp			5480	+90
Kokusai Elec.	3470	+20	Tokio Marine & Fire			2320	+10
Kumada Metal	1460	-40	Provided by Nomura Investment				
Kyocera Corp	5530	+170	Banking (Midcast), Bahrain				
Mazui	3560	+60					





### Japanese at play

The Japanese community in Kuwait recently held their sports day at Yarmouk Stadium. The Japan Club co-sponsored the event with the Japan School, and Japanese corporations, represented here, offered prizes to the winners. Above are the red and white cheering sections for the participants who were divided into two teams.

### NIGHT CREWIST

Kuwait  
Fahad Al Salem Street  
Al Ojail Pharmacy  
Mubarakia  
Hawalli and Nagra  
Al Qatami Pharmacy  
Beirut Street

Salmiya and Rumaithiya  
Al Raed Pharmacy  
Amman Street

Jeleeb Shiyukh  
Wahran Pharmacy  
Souq Street  
Jahra  
Al Zahra Pharmacy  
The New Commercial  
Market

### WHAT'S ON

#### ARTS

**Seminar**  
There will be a seminar at the DAA on "Arabic & European Art in the Light of Zodiacal Symbolism" December 10, 1989 - January 10, 1990. Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am. Anyone wishing to register for this seminar may do so at the DAA during museum hours.

#### SOCIAL

**Bhartiya Kala Sangam**  
A family get-together for members of Bhartiya Kala Sangam will be held at the Indian Embassy premises on Thursday, Dec 7, 1989 at 7.30 pm. There will be an entertainment programme including "fancy dress competition" for children, lucky draw, and sumptuous buffet for members. Lots of prizes and surprises await for one and all. For details please contact tele. 5628171, 2551305.

**IAC Children's Competition**  
THE dates of finals of the Children's Competition will take place at IAC Funaites on 13th, 14th, 15th, 27th and 28th December '89 and 18th January '90 respectively. For more details contact Indian Schools.

**X'mas tree '89**  
CHRISTMAS is for children, and what better way than to celebrate it with the New Goans Overseas Association at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel (the new Al-Mirage Ballroom) on the 15th of December 1989. Highlights include 'carol singing competition' (4 local schools participating) games for children, novelty dance and music by the Stepping Stones. Santa Claus will be distributing gifts to all the kids. For reservations contact Anthony on tel: 5621968 (after 6.00 pm) or Julio.

**X'mas tree**  
DEC 15: Flying Arrows Sporting Centre once again invites their members and guests to their annual X'mas tree function, to be held at the Carlton Tower Hotel from 11.30am onwards. Assumptuous buffet, gifts galore, exciting games and live music by the "Neighbuzz" awaits one and all. Added attraction, Leo the Magician is to perform at 12.00pm sharp.

**Music Night**  
MUSIC Night at "The Lonesome Traveller." A musical evening in a cafe atmosphere featuring performers from the Kuwait Folk Group perform-

ing British traditional music, folk, pop and country songs. The evening is being produced by ACT and will provide you with a unique night out. It is being held December 17th at 8.00 pm at the Holiday Inn. For more details, call 5620332 from 5.00 to 7.00 pm.

**Variety Show**  
UPKAAR is a newly formed non-profit cultural group of Hindi/Urdu speaking expatriates in Kuwait. Upkaar, whose aim is to promote art, culture and literature is going to hold an inaugural variety entertainment programme at Al Sharq Co-operative Auditorium comprising of dances, dramas, musical items and pantomimes on December 15 at 6.00 pm. This will be followed by a buffet dinner. Interested persons may contact 4880965 or 2615515.

**United Goans Centre**  
SANTA Claus is coming to town on December 15 at the Al Salam Hotel in the Al Deira Hall exactly at 9.30 am, with loads of gifts and sweets for all your children. Make your presence at the United Goans Centre's X'mas party. A unique fancy dress parade for children and lots of surprises awaits the young and the old. Lively music from the "Next of Kin." For further information contact Tony 2612024 or Moses 2424293.

**NRI General Body Meeting**  
NRI Investors Forum holding annual G.B. meeting at Indian embassy on December 15 at 11.00 am. Investment speakers specially invited from India. Also presentation of NRI of the Year trophy. Followed by complimentary lunch for members.

**Kuwait Little Theatre**  
KUWAIT Little Theatre, Ahmadi, proudly present their traditional pantomime extravaganza - Sinbad the Sailor. Tickets are now on sale for the following performances: Gala Night 5th Dec at 7 pm. Evening performances on 6th and 13th Dec at 7 pm. Matinee performances on 7th, 8th, 14th and 15th Dec at 2 and 5 pm. Ring 3919759 now to avoid disappointment.

**British Council**  
Greystoke - The Legend of Tarzan  
SATURDAY, 9 and Sunday, 10 December, 6.30pm. 130 min. This is an extremely interesting and unusual film. This Tarzan manages to lose his primate and human families. His disillusionment with what he sees of civilization, despairing of ever feeling truly at home at Greystoke, he returns to the jungle. The case is excellent, but the real stars are the team of actors who portrayed so realistically the jungle apes.

### TELEVISION PROGRAMME

#### KTV 1

##### MORNING PERIOD

- 9.30 The opening and Holy Quran
- 9.40 Sabah Al Kher, news and variety
- 10.00 Cartoon serial
- 10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
- 10.30 Bait Min Waraq: Arabic serial (part 7)
- 11.30 Sabah Al Kher, news and variety
- 11.40 Taleel: Beduin Serial, starring Yousif Yousif, Antwanete Najeb, Waleed Barakat and Sameera Khouri
- 12.30 News Summary
- 12.35 Sabah Al Kher, news
- 12.37 Holy Quran and Closures

##### EVENING PERIOD

- 4.00 The opening and Holy Quran
- 4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
- 4.45 Cartoon serial (Final part)
- 5.15 Agricultural Magazine: local programme, prepared and presented by Yaqoub Al Yousifi.
- 5.35 We are Your Friends: local programme
- 5.45 Night chemists, airlines and officials advertisements
- 6.15 Al Islam Hadhara: religious serial (part 25)
- 7.15 Sports Star: sports programme, prepared and Presented by Motlag Nassar
- 7.55 Made in Kuwait: information programme, prepared and presented by Dr Ali Al Damkh
- 8.30 Good Evening and local news
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.45 Saber: Arabic serial (part 10)
- 10.35 Variety late night show

with guest Majada Al Roumi, Part 1, presented by Dawlat Shawqi  
11.45 News Summary  
11.50 The World Today via Satellite  
2.00 Holy Quran and Closures

#### KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening, announcement & Holy Quran
- 6.10 Diplodos. A cartoon series for children
- 6.30 Electronic Office. A scientific programme about the advancement of office electronic equipment and their multi-applications...
- 7.00 Watch all Night "The Passette File" The Dr's daughter receives a file from the woman who met her father before being kidnapped. Foreign secret agents start chasing the Dr's daughter.
- 7.30 Fishing The West Monterey Bottom Fish. A look at fishing on the Monterey coast of California.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 You and the Law
- 8.45 The Twilight Zone "Shelter-Skelter" A crazy about the nuclear war builds a special shelter attached to his house.
- 9.30 The Great Space Race "The Next Civilization"
- 10.00 A Different World.
- 10.30 Murphy's Law "Experience is Something" Murphy is permitted to meet his daughter twice in two weeks provided that he is sober and employed.
- 11.30 News in Brief
- 11.45 Magazine D'Actualite

## KICC's grand finale

THE Kuwait Indian Cultural Congress held a grand function with a lot of variety entertainment programmes to mark the finale of the Nehru Centenary celebrations, in the Indian Embassy Hall last Friday. Leo Simpson, Jasmin Mary Jacob and Reena Mary Mathew the three top students from each of the Indian Schools in Kuwait were given the gold medals donated by the Al Othman Jewellers for their outstanding performance in the 10th standard examinations. Kuwait Times managing editor Badriya Aliyan gave away the medals.

George Tharakan, customer relations manager of Air India said that this function has added importance since it is the responsibility of the society to respect and encourage the out-standing students. Jawaharlal Nehru with his vision and far sightedness had started institutions of higher education in India in the very days of freedom even without caring for criticism from fellow men. It is therefore, both adequate and proper that medals are given out in a function organised to commemorate Nehru, added Abdul Kalia, First Secretary of Information in the Indian Embassy.

J.A.S. Newton, Director of the Indian School also felicitated the students. He said scholarships are instituted by the respective schools to encourage the top students, but society also has to encourage and appreciate them. "Their respect of elders and teachers growing like a cancer among the student community and students should show the way to others not only in scoring marks but also in behaviour," he added. "Because of the high competition now-a-days the percentage of scoring is going up, year by year and there are many arenas open to bright students other than the conventional ones. The career guidance seminar held in the Indian

School these days is very informative to the parents and students alike."

Replying to the great honour conferred on them by the KICC, Leo Simpson said that they will try to live up to the advice and expectations of the community as expressed symbolically through these awards. He thanked the President, secretaries and all members of the KICC for the effort they have made. The meeting was presided over by KICC President Vargese Mathew. General Secretary John Manduran offered the welcome speech. The programme was complimented by Gulf Flower Supermarket, Gulf Peoples Stores-Abbasiya and Regal Restaurant and the medals were donated by Al Othman Jewellery, Kuwait.

Following the prize giving, a variety entertainment programme started with a patriotic song by a great spiritual poet of Kerala, Vallathol. This programme was staged by the children of Ambika Surya Narayanan.

Nrithanjali, under the guidance of Girija Radhakrishnan, presented the Krishna Padam in Bharat Natyam and the budding artists presented the mental agony of the Gopikas with aesthetic perfection of expression.

"Opana" again by Nrithanjali, and the Cholkettu a presentation in Mohiniyattam by Anju Max all were of very high standard. Kairali Shubhy and Keertanams all duels beaming reverberating with patriotism all went with the audience, presents were given to Ambika and Girija by Arts Convent or Vijaya Menon and Co-ordinator Babu Thomas for their great performance.

KICC Gen. Secretary Ima Rafiq extended a vote of thanks. The meeting was disbursed after the National Anthem.



A scene from Mohiniyattam — a classical form of dance of Kerala.



A scene from "Opana" the traditional Muslim wedding song on the night before the wedding, the bride sits in centre of her dancing friends.



### A love mantra from Ujjain

A press release from Narmada Theatres claims that regular rehearsals are on the move for their maiden venture — A Love Mantra from Ujjain, — a social play, which will be staged during the first half of May 1990 at Indian Arts Circle, Funaites. The remarkable feature of this play will be that latest technology is being adopted for mood creations. Castings include Amin, Kuruvilla, Thomas, Rajan, Gangadharan, Prasanna, Moncy, Kumary Thomas, Leelamma Joy, Sherry and Shiny. Lyrics by Rajendra Babu and music Arjunan. The play, co-directed by Sherry John and directed by Jayan Pattathu will be staged twice with an interval of two weeks in order to ensure participation of majority of Malayalee community in Kuwait.

**Ahmadi Music Society**  
The Ahmadi Music Society proudly presents its 21st Carol Concert at 8 pm on Monday and Tuesday Dec 11 and 12, 1989. A special children's carol

concert will be held at 5.30 pm on Saturday Dec 9, 1989. Venue Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmadi. For ticket reservations ring 3983964.

#### CINEMA

Al Andulus  
Shock Troop  
Salmiyah  
Hall booked  
Al Hamra  
Over Board  
Drive-in  
Arabic film  
Al Firdous  
Jaisi Karmi Waisi Bharni  
Fahsheel Open  
Jheel Ka Us Paar  
Fahsheel  
Night eyes  
Al Jahra  
Ayn Adalat  
Granada  
Kandathum Kettaithum  
Salaibkhat  
Frisco King  
Jheel  
Parbat  
Ahmadi Drive-in  
Arabic film

#### PRAYERS

Fajr	5.04 am
Zohr	11.38
Asr	2.31 pm
Maghreb	4.49
Isha	6.11

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

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EXP 11/150



## Word search

## ANCIENT EGYPT

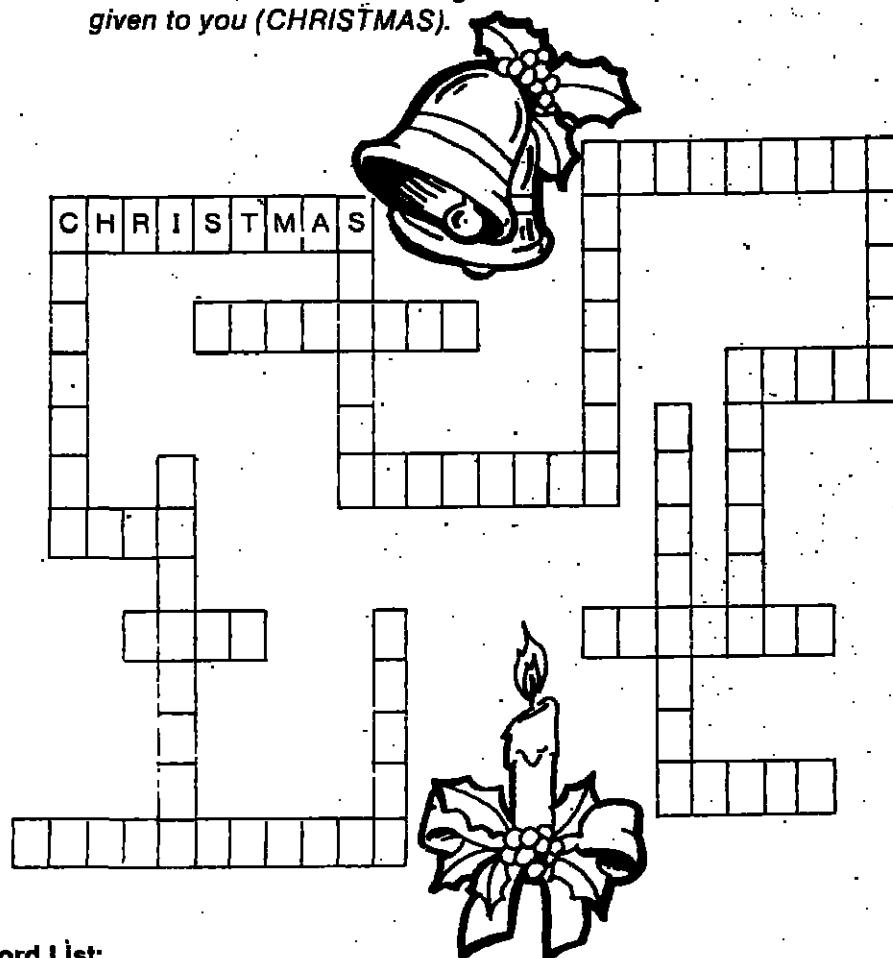
CARVING  
CEREMONIES  
COLORS  
DESIGN  
ETERNITY  
EUPHRATES  
HOMES  
IMAGES  
INDITE  
JEWELRY  
MASKS  
METAL WORKING  
MONUMENTS

MURALS  
PALACE  
POTTERY  
PYRAMIDS  
SCULP  
SHRINE  
SPHINX  
STATUES  
TEMPLES  
TIGRIS  
TOMBS

C O L O R S S E L P M E T  
A E Y P S E U T A T S I O  
R U R C L X N L M W G M M  
V P L E Q U A G S R V A B  
I H E C M C C P I U O G S  
N R W I E O H S Y S E E T  
G A E Y T I N R E T E S N  
S T J A N H E I I O N D E  
L E U X S T O D E X I C M  
A S B K T P N M L S R K U  
R Q S O F I C W E V H Q N  
U A P Y R A M I D S S T O  
M E T A L W O R K I N G M

## Holiday Squares

Directions: Place the words from the word list in the proper position in the puzzle. Place one letter in each square. Use each word only once. The words will be formed from left to right and from top to bottom. One word is given to you (CHRISTMAS).



Word List:  
Christmas  
reindeer  
Hanukkah

sleigh  
decorations  
snow

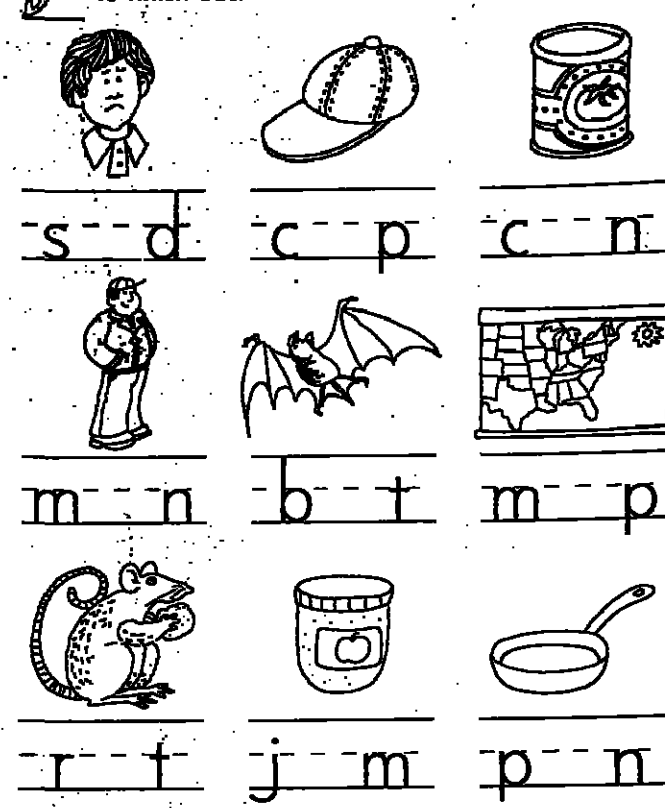
Menorah  
Holidays  
trees  
tinsel

chimney  
Rudolph  
presents  
mistletoe

Santa  
elves  
bells  
yule

## Words with a

Say the name of each picture. Write the letter a to finish each word.



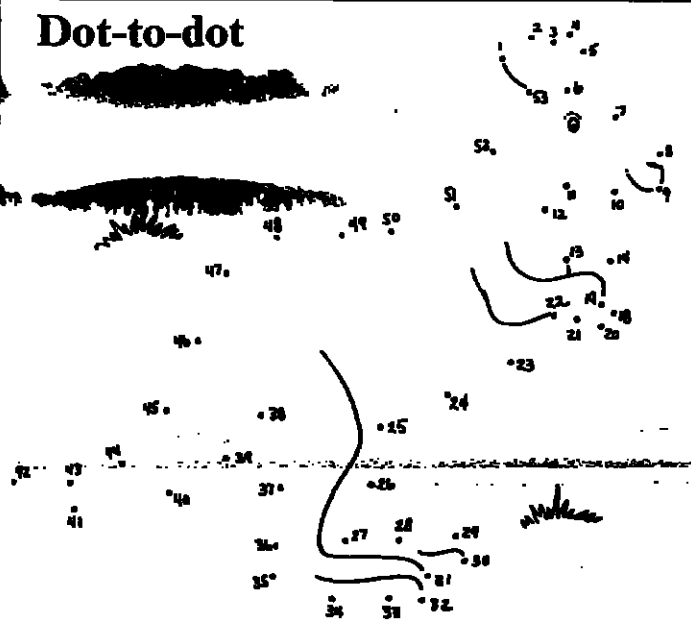
## First and last

The last time that 'press-gangs' were used to force men into joining the Royal Navy was about 1850. Men would sometimes be knocked out on shore, and when they came to, they would be on board ship, even sailing out to sea!

The first time that snow was recorded falling in the middle of the Sahara desert was in 1979.

In ancient Greece a woman's age was counted from the first day of her marriage.

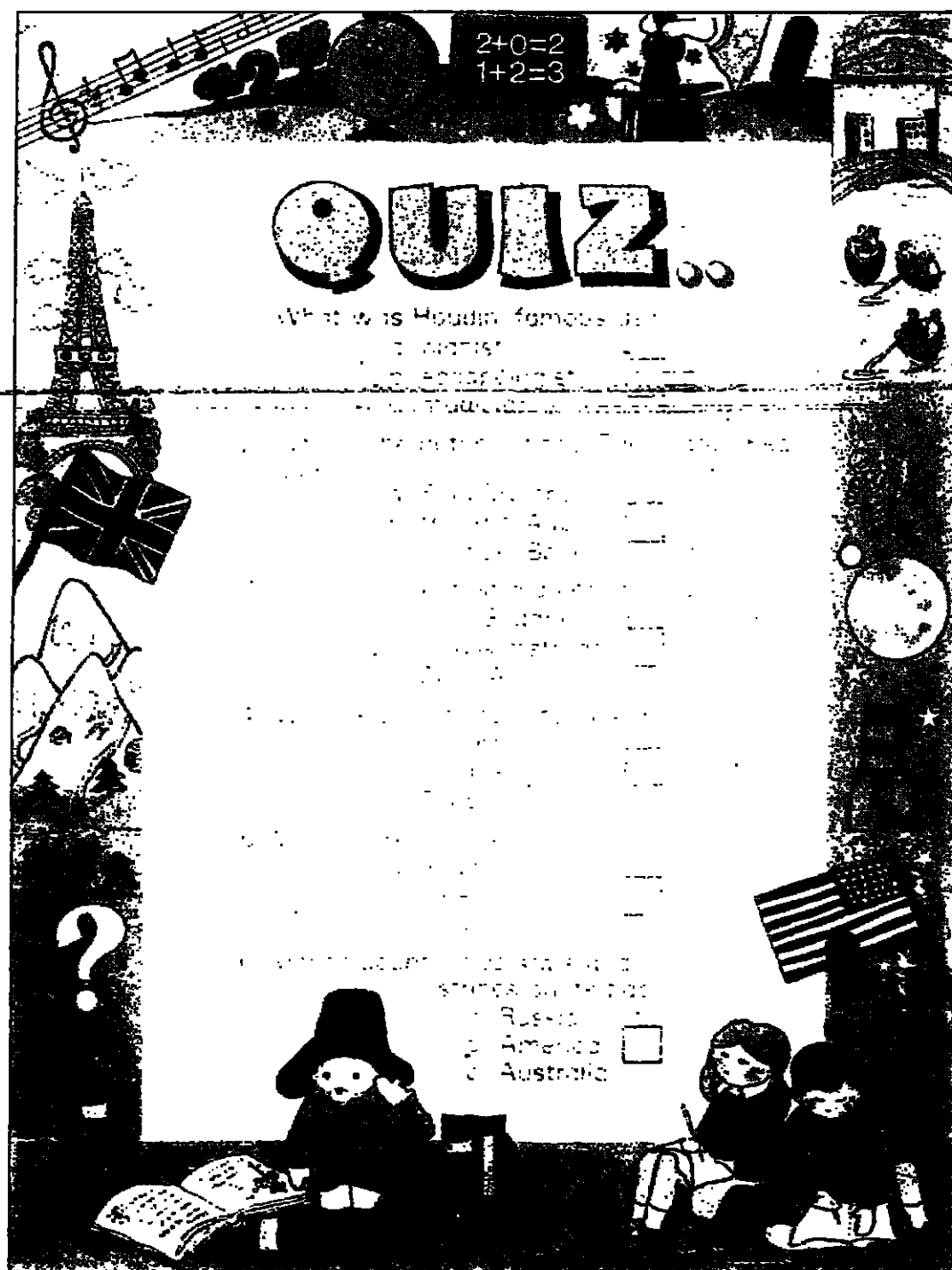
## Dot-to-dot



## Colouring time



3 X on the doll.



Dear Junior readers,

It has been raining beautifully for the past few days. I am sure that you are all enjoying it, with all those lovely puddles and clean, fresh raindrops falling on your face, arms and legs. Do you realise how much good the rain has done for Kuwait this year?

HH the Amir wished to make Kuwait green, co-operative societies helped fulfill his wish by planting palm trees in their respective areas and citizens have helped by growing trees and plants outside and inside their gardens. Now nature is helping.

It seems that some areas in Kuwait are quite fertile. Near my home, there is a patch of sand which has recently burst into a small bundle of young, light green grass.

The rain has also cleared up the weather. A few days ago a really violent sandstorm was about to pollute the air when rain poured down and saved us from a very dirty day.

Manal

## Just for laughs!

Policeman: "You were exceeding the speed limit, madam, weren't you?"

Lady motorist: "Yes, I was, constable, but you see my brakes are so bad that I wanted to get home before I had an accident..."

My brother's got a new job in a blotting paper factory. He says he finds the work absorbing.

My uncle's just had this great idea for getting more pigs into a small space. He's built a sty-scraper.

Find the objects and then colour the picture.



## Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?  
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?  
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!  
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.  
The details we need are:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
(confidential)

Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

Send to:  
**ARAB TIMES**

Junior Times  
P.O. Box 2270  
13023, Safat,  
Kuwait

To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date



## Happy birthday



Amar Jyoti celebrated his 7th birthday on December 3. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends.



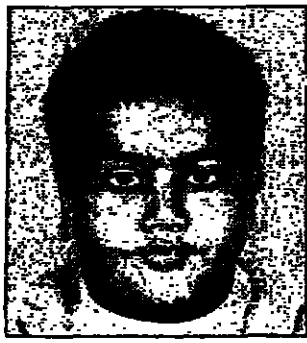
Herantha Lankawetunga celebrated his birthday on December 2. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Herantha likes playing with his brother.



Smitha Sathianarayan celebrates her 9th birthday today, December 5. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends.



Sunil Philips celebrated his 6th birthday on November 29. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends.



Ron Jacob celebrated his 7th birthday today December 5. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends.



Sabeen Javed celebrated her 7th birthday on December 1. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends.



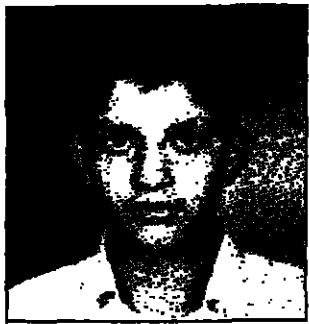
Sameer Khan celebrated his birthday on December 1. Belated greetings from parents and family.



Anil Mendonsa celebrated his 5th birthday on December 5. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends.

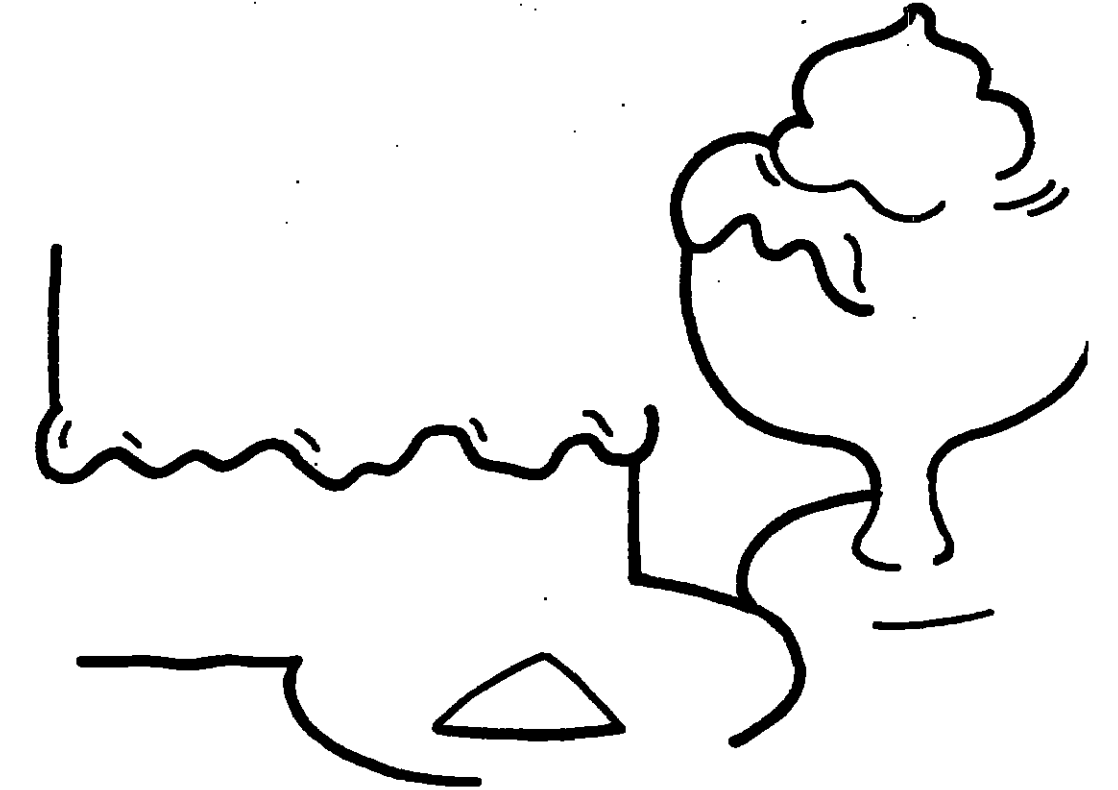
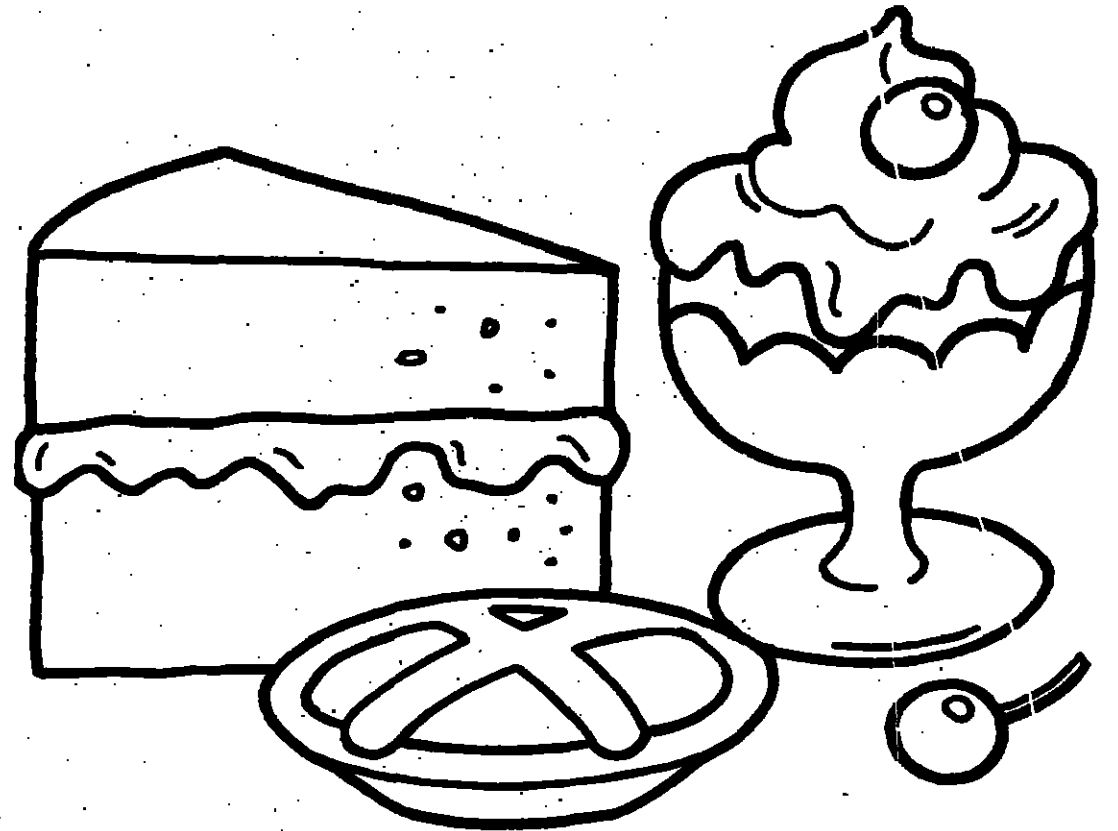


Ahmed Mohammed Ahmed celebrated his 20th birthday on December 1. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends.



Jalick D'Souza celebrated his 15th birthday on December 4. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends.

## Draw and colour



## Birthday message

Three hundred and sixty-five days make a year  
The fourth of December comes every year  
Dear Jalick you have stepped on this year  
The first day of your fifteenth year.

Best of luck now and till you are old  
Day after day a person grows old  
Do your best before years roll to call you are old  
You are good, gentle, kind and bold but not old.

I am very proud to have a brother like you  
Without forgetting happy birthday I wish you

Every day may joy and peace be with you  
May God's countless blessings shower upon you.

Though I am younger, I got something to say  
Always be truthful & honest what our parents say  
Select the best throughout your life is what I say  
Once more happy birthday & many more to come I say.

By: Jovial D'Souza,  
Age: 13 years,  
Std: IX A.



## VARIETY



Teenager Diane Melrose, who suffers from Cystic Fibrosis, in her stage costume

## Love of dancing keeps young ballerina alive

## Doctors amazed at Melrose's will to survive

RAPTUROUS applause greeted the frail little dancer as she finished a moving solo. Her family and friends in the audience fought back the tears, because they knew they had just seen a miracle.

For 14-year-old Diane Melrose, who stole the show, suffers from a crippling illness. Often she is so ill that she can hardly walk. Twice she has nearly died.

But the plucky 14-year-old, who has cystic fibrosis, loves to dance. And amazed doctors say that this love has kept her alive against all the odds.

Diane's mother, Irene, told me: "Her doctors say it is astonishing she has lived so long. She has been on the brink of death at least twice. But Diane is always determined to fight back. If there is something she wants to do, like the dancing she adores, she will do it. The energy comes from somewhere."

Diane, two thirds of whose lungs have been destroyed by infections, is often too weak to even walk upstairs. But she regularly attends rehearsals for musical shows at the Young Entertainers Company, based in Horsham, Sussex. During one spell in hospital, Diane even persuaded nurses to let her out for nightly rehearsals.

But she always has to fit in three daily sessions of physioth-

erapy. And Diane must take up to 30 pills a day to fight off infection and to digest her food.

Every night the plucky teenager, who first took ballet lessons at the age of three, is plugged into an oxygen supply beside her bed.

Plucky Diane is the size of an 11-year-old because her body is unable to digest fats. She told me: "I have never thought of giving up. Some people say I'm brave, but I don't think I am. I just love to dance."

One of Diane's most treasured moments was when she sang the poignant song "Maybe", from the musical Annie, during a show to a capacity audience of 800.

Her performance moved people to tears. Yet only days before, Diane had been in hospital, plugged into a drip and battling against a chest infection.

Nurses came to the show in ear-loads, proudly watching the brave patient they have cared for over the years.

And 42-year-old Irene told me: "One doctor watched a video of Diane's performance, and couldn't believe what he was seeing. He said it didn't make sense that Diane could do all the singing and dancing she does when her lungs are in such a poor state."

She went on: "We have watched Diane when she's been really ill. Some days she can hardly walk up the stairs. But she has



The young dancer with all her drugs.

always insisted on joining in everything. She has been Girl Guide camp, where she went abseiling and canoeing. And she also enjoys ice-skating and horse-riding. We just can't keep up with her!"

Despite her gutsy determination, life has never been easy for tiny Diane. Irene, whose husband Bob is a local government officer, remembers only too well one heart-rending time when Diane nearly died.

At the family home in Dorking, Surrey, she told me: "About two years ago, Diane came out of hospital with a terrible chest infection. She was very weak. Diane normally has a lot of fight in her, but she just didn't seem to have any this time. It was just before Christmas, and we even talked about what would happen if Diane died. The doctors really didn't think she would pull through."

"We were devastated, of course. Then, on Christmas Day, something of the old Diane began to return. She insisted on opening all her presents by herself, one by one. It took her hours. But it was amazing."

"It was as if she'd suddenly decided to fight back — and she was winning."

"Dark-haired, softly-spoken Irene added: "We decided a long time ago that we could either live under the shadow of this disease,

or live with it. And I hope we're now doing the latter."

For the Melrose family, that means keeping a sense of humour in the face of tragic uncertainty about Diane's future. And it also means helping others.

Inspired by Diane's courage, the Young Entertainers Song and Dance Company donates the proceeds of its shows to the Cystic Fibrosis Research Fund. This helps to pay for research to try to find a cure for the crippling genetic illness, which was diagnosed in Diane at the age of nine months.

With the help of Irene, Bob and Diane's brothers 21-year-old Chris, Ross, 21 and Aga, aged seven, hundreds of pounds have been raised for the charity.

One of the show's organisers, Sue Watts, believes that the fundraising is the least they could do. She said: "When Diane is in hospital during rehearsals, we never worry. We know how brave she is, so we expect that she will definitely be there on the night."

And Julian Mortimer, a dance teacher who is training Diane for her next role in a show called Putting on the Ritz, said: "Diane is unique, wonderful little character with a real zest and unquenchable thirst for life."

Diane manages to keep up well at school. Although she has missed months of lessons, she enjoys a normal, boisterous school life.

## Private schools spring up as Japanese feel pressure to do better

TOKYO. (AP) For months, 5-year-old Kieko Hara has attended a "cram school" twice a week after kindergarten and on weekends to help prepare for elementary school entrance exams.

Some days, she makes rice balls or crafts, or is drilled in the Japanese alphabet. Once a week, she takes a practice test like those used by private schools to choose the few applicants they accept.

"We wish she didn't have to go to cram school, but if she gets into a good private school system now, then she'll be able to enter the school's junior high automatically without having to attend cram school during elementary school," says Yuko, her mother.

Japan's public education system draws praise for egalitarianism and the high scores of its students on achievement tests. But as public schools have become more equal, parents have sought an edge elsewhere.

Children are being sent at ever-younger ages to cram schools, called Jukus, or are going to private rather than public schools in hopes of gaining ground in the merciless college-entrance competition.

The Ministry of Education says 71 per cent of elementary and junior high students attend Jukus or have special outside lessons, in effect creating an entire second school system. It is a booming business estimated to be worth about 1 trillion yen (\$7 billion) a year.

Some Japanese contend the increasing role of private spending in education threatens the equality of opportunity created by the public school system. Others say public schools have concentrated on educating the main-stream students, neglecting the bright and creative.

Getting into the best schools frequently requires a staggering amount of money, as well as work.

Kieko's parents pay about 65,000 yen

(\$460) a month for her Juku classes, in addition to fees for her private kindergarten. Some classmates began attending a Juku at age 3, to prepare for the kindergarten entrance exam, and now have daily cram sessions before kindergarten and again in the afternoon.

Such devotion to schooling has a long history in Japan and some other Asian nations, but the intense competition is largely a post-war development that grew with economic prosperity.

Japan spends less on public education than the United States, both in total amount and percentage of gross national product.

In the last fiscal year, the government allocated 16 trillion yen (\$112 billion) to public education, compared with \$353 billion this year in the United States.

An Education Ministry study in 1987 said 4.2 per cent of Japan's GNP went to public education, compared with 4.8 per cent in the

United States, 4.4 per cent in Britain and 4.2 per cent in West Germany.

But while US educational spending varies widely by region and school district, Japan has followed a policy of equality in public education in distribution of resources. It also does not "track," or separate students by ability in elementary and junior high school.

In the United States, the federal government provides about 6 per cent of the public funding for kindergarten through high school. Japan's central government pays 43 per cent, much of it in subsidies to local education districts that reduce regional disparities to less than 20 per cent, government figures show.

The Education Ministry approves textbooks and curricula, so all students study essentially the same material at the same time.

In high school, Japanese students cram for college entrance exams that determine not

only what school they will attend, but their chances for a good job afterward. Companies with the most prestige usually hire graduates of only the top universities.

College entrance exams have become more difficult as competition has intensified and frequently include material not covered in the public school curriculum, according to Education Ministry studies.

With cramming for exams now extending down to kindergarten, "by junior high school, many students feel that their life has already been ordained," said Naomi Kikuchi, a mother of two students.

In the past, a leading public high school was considered the best preparation for college entrance exams. That changed as the high schools became more equal.

Many parents and students now see Jukus, with their emphasis on preparing for exams, as more helpful than public schools in gaining

admission to good universities.

About 70 per cent of parents in a recent survey said they disapproved of Jukus, but most said they had enrolled their children because they were "a necessary evil."

Other families try to get their children into top private kindergartens or elementary schools, especially those of respected private universities that automatically admit graduates of their own lower-levels.

The first year at Aoyama University's kindergarten, one of the most sought-after schools, costs about 1.4 million yen (\$9,500), more than the 980,000-yen (\$6,800) fee for the first year of university.

A survey by a major bank in 1987 found that education expenses account for 13.4 per cent of after-tax earnings for an average Japanese family in a metropolitan area.





Above, just after the fateful crash, James Dean (arrowed) lies next to the wrecked Porsche. Far left, in high spirits, James Dean (right) and his mechanic, Rolf Wuthrich, set off on the trip North. Dean had only hours to live. Left, the silver Porsche that was Dean's present to himself.

Death scene painstakingly reconstructed

## James Dean 'dies' again

A DANCING shadow appears, mirage-like, on a road shining like a mirror in the setting sun. As the shadow rises and falls with the dips in the road, it gradually grows into a speeding silver sports car. And another car begins to turn lethally across its path.

In the silver Porsche, the handsome young driver laughs and jokes with his passenger, and bites into an apple. Suddenly, he sees the car ahead...and his own death.

A squeal of tortured tyres, the rending of metal, a cloud of dust sounds a requiem for James Dean, movie legend and rebel.

This was the way it happened on a lonely California road. And this is the way it's happening yet again for the movie cameras.

Every tiny detail of that death scene is being painstakingly reconstructed for a \$15 million movie called James Dean — The Legend. Camera men in two helicopters, and five multi-speed cameras on the ground will put millions of moviegoers right into James Dean's driving seat.

Every heart-stopping millisecond that led up to the crash is being recorded. The very obsession for the truth will spell danger for the stuntmen filming the scene. For the cars will really crash, just as they did when Dean died at 5.59 p.m. on September 30, 1955, while travelling at 85 mph.

The man orchestrating the death scene was 24-year-old Dean's "car buddy" in the old days, helping the restless young star of customised and race cars. George Barris even worked on the Porsche Spyder in which Dean died.

George, aged 63, told me: "I want the whole world to feel what Jimmy felt in those last seconds of his life. They said he had a death wish, but I know Jimmy tried to save his life by driving round the Ford Mercury that was turning in front of him."

"But I believe Jimmy was living under a death cloud. Now I

am concentrating on making this ultimate scene, which is the movie's climax. The death that, it seems, was meant to be. I'm building six replica Porsches, two of which will be crashed.

"They will be made of the same density metal as Jimmy's car. And we are going to wreck the Porsches exactly as Jimmy's was wrecked. Metal has to bend. The car has to spin.

"The Porsche is going to go right into the Ford, hitting its bumper and fender. The steering wheel and the whole front left-hand side of the car was smashed over to the right, killing Dean instantly.

"There is no protection in the cars we are building because they are made only of light aluminium. It's going to be an exciting scene, but it has to be photographed so that I don't hurt my drivers.

"We will be using an animated model for James Dean. The stuntman acting the part of Dean's passenger and mechanic, Rolf Wuthrich, will really be driving the car with a steering wheel and other controls hidden under the car's dashboard.

"The stuntman playing the part of Rolf, Jerry Summers, will have to both drive and act. He is hurtled out of the Porsche in the crash. The stuntman driving the Ford, Jack Gill, will have to time his turn across the road in front of the Porsche just right.

"I want to show that Jimmy died as dramatically as he lived. And we have promised his family that we will not show James Dean dead. We end the scene with smoke, dust and silence. And that apple spinning on the asphalt."

The movie's producer, Loran Pike, said: "It's going to be very, very dangerous, believe me. But I know it's going to be done right because George Barris is involved. I'm very impressed with him."

The first shots of the scene, taken at the anniversary of the

time and date of Dean's death, are already in the can. The movie will be released next year on that same anniversary.

And, as work goes on to recreate the legend that was James Dean, no-one can forget the "curse" said to have struck down many of the people associated with the actor and his car.

Two people have died, others have been injured and fires have broken out in mysterious circumstances. Even an unknown actor called Damian, who has been chosen to play the part of the movie legend, has had a motorcycle crash that is chillingly Dean-like.

The latest victim is George Barris himself. He told me at his custom car headquarters near Studio City: "Here we are, just starting this movie, and a heart of a clear, blue sky — I get a heart attack."

"I'm board of health, for Chrissakes. I don't drink or smoke and I'm very athletic. I just don't know where this heart attack came from."

"There could be a curse. There have been plenty of bizarre happenings. People say they are coincidences. But how many coincidental things can happen? I think it all goes beyond that."

"For a start, just look at what has happened to all the top people who acted with Jimmy in Rebel Without a Cause. Not one of them had died of old age. Natalie Wood died of violent death, and so did Sal Mineo. Nick Adams committed suicide."

"Then there are the others, who were associated with Dean. His photographer, Sandy Roth is dead. So is stuntman Bill Hickman. And Rolf Wuthrich, who survived Dean's crash, went home to Germany, only to die in another road accident."

"If you want to believe in the supernatural...When that Porsche Spyder — the first of its kind to arrive in the States — was delivered to Jimmy I had a very

funny feeling about it. And before he left on that last trip north, where he was going to race the car at Salinas, I told him, 'I've got very funny vibes about this car. Why do you have to go on this journey?'

"But Jimmy just said, 'Nuh, nuh, nuh. I've got to go. I've got to get this on me. Put it on a trailer.'"

But, at the last moment, James Dean made a fatal decision. He ordered the car to be taken off the trailer and set out to drive it north himself.

And "car buddy" George, who had just painted "Little Bastard" an some racing stripes on the car for Dean, wasn't the only one to feel a strange presentiment about that last trip.

Some of Dean's friends, Eartha Kitt, Ursula Andress and Alec Guinness were all uneasy. Ursula said later: "Jimmy came to see me two days before he died and showed me the car. He was very proud of it. He had just finished his third film and had bought it as a present to himself."

"He said he was planning on racing it that weekend. I begged him not to go to that race. I told him I had a bad feeling about the car. He laughed it off but promised to be careful. I knew I'd never see him again."

And Alec Guinness recalled: "I told Dean that, if he was wise, he would get rid of that car. Of course, he didn't. You can't expect a person to heed your advice, based on a feeling about something."

Photographer Sandy Roth's widow, Beulah, told me: "I should have gone on that trip. Something told me not to."

George Barris bought the wreck of the Porsche, selling some of the parts and using the shell for road safety exhibitions. Then followed a chain of disasters, until the wreck finally and mysteriously vanished.

George Barris told me: "When the wreck was brought in here on a tow truck it slipped and hit one

of the attendants, breaking both his legs. Right after Jimmy's death, his house burned down.

"I heard that the ambulance taking him to hospital had been in an accident."

"Then a kid, who tried to take the Porsche's steering wheel as a souvenir, fell and broke his arm. We sent the wreck to an auto show and the building where it was stored burned down. But the car was only scorched."

"Then a man who bought some of the components for his racing car was killed at the track. And another guy, who had the Porsche's transmission, was injured in a crash."

Other reports of accidents came in over the years. A man bought the car's racing tyres. A week later, he slewed off the road when both the front tyres simultaneously blew out.

And a truck carrying the wreck skidded, throwing the driver from his cab. The driver was crushed to death by the Porsche. On another occasion, the car broke into two pieces while it was being towed on the back of a truck. There was a minor traffic accident.

In Oregon, in 1958, another truck carrying the car slipped off its brake and rolled into a store.

George said: "People who tried to take pieces of the wreck for souvenirs cut their fingers on the metal. Yes, a lot of unusual things happened around that car. Bizarre things."

In the "late fifties or early sixties," George said, the car disappeared from a truck bringing it from Florida to Los Angeles. It was never seen again. George told me: "Over the years I have received 6,432 reports of what happened to Jimmy Dean's Porsche. It's been seen in haylofts, hidden in the back of trucks, dug under ground or stored away in a locked steel vault."

"If I am visiting the town where the sighting is supposed to have taken place, I often go along to check it out."

## Armani feels alone

Fashion king expresses with clothes

MILAN, Italy, (Reuter): Italian fashion king Giorgio Armani rules a multi-million dollar empire that has made him the darling of the rich and famous, but he is terrified of being alone.

"I feel alone, and I'm terrified of being alone — I'll have an eternity to be alone."

"I don't have many relationships with people," the designer told Reuters as he sat at his desk in front of a huge model of an Armani perfume bottle.

"But at least I express myself with the clothes I design. If I didn't have that I'd shoot myself."

From Milan, the capital of Italian fashion, the 55-year-old master tailor has built an empire of more than 100 boutiques selling 20 ready-to-wear lines in Europe, the United States and Japan.

Silver-haired and blue-eyed, James Dean (right) lies next to the wrecked Porsche. Far left, in high spirits, James Dean (right) and his mechanic, Rolf Wuthrich, set off on the trip North. Dean had only hours to live. Left, the silver Porsche that was Dean's present to himself.

His apparent reluctance to live out his image as a sex symbol is reflected in his approach to designing clothes. For Armani, women don't have to be sexy.

"I'm not worried whether they're sexy, or beautiful, or tall. I want the women who wear my clothes to be intelligent. I don't dress the woman who just wants to attract a man at the end of the evening," he said.

All along his watchword has been informal, comfortable elegance, a life-long battle against the extravagant flourishes of rival stylists.

Dressed in a plain navy-blue track suit and sneakers, Armani explained:

"Some designers have made men and women look ridiculous, just fashion victims. I design clothes to make women understand they can take part in a board meeting without their way of dressing attracting indiscreet looks."

"It's an attitude above sex. We need a type of fashion that's realistic, informal. No huge square jackets with big shoulders making men look like supermen."

A loose, rumpled men's jacket — this evolution, Armani said, was revolutionary when "Armani created it more than 10 years ago is still his main claim to fame — and wealth."

Christened "unstructured," the restyled blazer has neither lining nor padding in the shoulders.

Armani has triumphantly blended artistic creativity with a sharp business sense. He dressed US Star Richard George in his first hit film "American Gigolo" in 1980, so attracting a broad audience for the Armani label.

His latest coup is to have successfully spread the spirit of his most innovative and expensive designs to cheaper, high street shops.

"Avant-garde haute couture is only for a few rich stars, only they can get away with wearing it. So I launched a label inspired by more expensive designs but which lots more people can afford," the designer said.

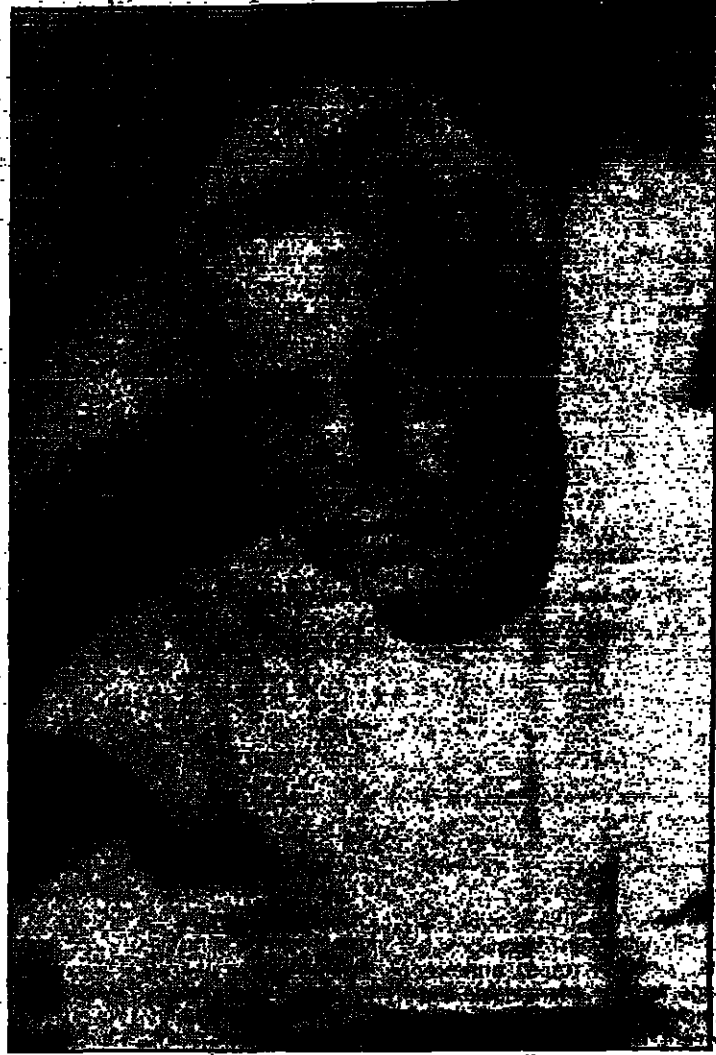
Emporio Armani's line of casual and formal wear, from trendy boxer shorts to jeans and tailored jackets, is much in demand and much copied. The company hopes to increase its number of outlets more than threefold over the next five years, including 150 new shops in the United States and 75 more in Japan.

And in what he sees as a challenge to Paris' fashion fortress, Armani will next February open his first Emporio there on the Place Vendôme, in the heart of the French capital.

"I'm curious to see how it goes. Paris is a very difficult place. I admire the French hugely, they're brilliant at fighting for their corner."

"Maybe they defend themselves so hard because they are scared of Italy. Maybe that's why they asked me to work for 'Lavin'."

Armani added with a grin. In September he rejected an offer from the prestigious French couture house to be its new stylist, saying he was already too busy.



Armani, darling of the rich and famous but, terrified of being alone, (Reuter wirephoto)

## Coiffeur to the stars

Alexandre the Sphinx

PARIS, (AP): The bottom-baring models at Yves Saint Laurent and the very proper Duchess of Windsor had at least one thing in common: perfectly coiffed tresses cared for by Alexandre the Sphinx.

Hairstyles by one of the world's most famous coiffeurs radiating style to Chanel and from Jean-Louis Scherrer to Emmanuel Ungaro.

During the shows, he and 20 assistants turn out everything from "snail" chignons to lion locks on hundreds of models.

"I have to know what's going on in the designers' minds," said Alexandre during an interview in his office above the salon looking over the tree-lined Champs Elysees. "I can't just play the matador with hair. It has to be a logical part of fashion."

Known as king of coiffeurs, Alexandre also plays figaro at royal marriages such as Princess Caroline's first wedding in Monaco. He is constant call for friends like Elizabeth Taylor and Sophia Loren, when they're getting dolled up for gala bashes.

He especially admires Loren, "who actually does her own hair almost every day."

Born Louis Alexandre Raimondi to a family of vintners in the Riviera section of St Tropez, Alexandre started cutting hair in 1938 when he was 15, working for Antoine, the Cannes high society hairdresser who was known as Coco Chanel's favourite coiffeur.

Alexandre was encouraged by the bushy-haired writer Colette, a neighbour and friend of his grandmother, "who talked about Paris all the time; I knew I had to go there."

After World War II, he met the begum and the Duchess of Windsor, who insisted he come to Paris. So Antoine agreed to place his famous clients and transferred his salon to the City of Lights.

Alexandre kept Jean Cocteau's wavy gray locks in line. The artist-writer-film creator called Alexandre the Sphinx, which became the hair stylist's logo.

When he met the Carita sisters — also to become legendary coiffeuses — the trio decided to set up shop in 1952 on the fashionable Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honore, not far from the presidential Elysees Palace.

Five years later, he branched off and hired a staff of 150, becoming "Alexandre de Paris", the name he's known by now. In 1980 he moved to the present posh salon.

With outlets throughout the United States and his own salon in Houston, Alexandre's turnover is about \$7 million a year — much of it from his successful accessory and cosmetics business.

In November, he opened a small luxury accessory shop on the Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honore with Francois Lesage, the master embroiderer of haute couture.

The whirlwind of fashion shows, royal weddings, gala soirées and openings are all taken in stride. But some events are more memorable than others — such as a 1951 wedding in Venice, where he made a real splash.

"I'd done Princess Ira von Furstenburg's hair for her wedding and was walking the gangplank from the gondola to attend the ceremony. Suddenly, I tripped and fell in the Venice canal like a piece of lead," he recalled, smiling. Alexandre borrowed a suit from Count Brandolini and dined out on the story for weeks.

Alexandre spends much of his free time these days with his two children (neither in the hair business) and five grandchildren, often spending holidays with them at his villa in St Tropez.

But his obsession remains with tresses, and he loves to give advice. "Long hair is for young girls or women who can afford to have their hair done every day. Most women should wear something more modern, easier to care for," he said.

For older women letting their hair go gray, Alexandre doesn't think much of it.

"Unless the woman has a lovely silvery sheen or a snowy white colour, as my grandmother did, why look downy when there are so many good natural colour combinations today?" he asked.

While Alexandre is coiffeur to the stars, he also finds time for ordinary mortals, "provided they reserve well in advance."

A cut and restyling at the salon costs 215 francs (about \$35), inexpensive by Paris standards. The price for styling by the master himself is higher and is set according to the client.

"I've done the job so well on a few that their own husbands didn't recognize them," he said.

## Japan has an airport shortage of crisis proportions

OSAKA, Japan (AP): While businessmen complain of obstacles to Japanese markets, travellers will that crowded airports are Japan's most frustrating barrier to entry. A mammoth construction project rising out of Osaka Bay is aimed at easing the bottleneck, but few industry insiders think it's the answer.

Critics say the 7-billion-dollar Kansai International Airport, one of the world's biggest civil engineering projects of the 1990s, has the best and worst of Japan: dazzling technology and murky political bureaucracy.

Japan has an airport shortage of crisis proportions, say industry sources. The country is famous for the efficiency of its internal transport, including high-speed trains and sparkling subways, but its links to the outside world — international airports

— are widely considered unworthy of a great economic power.

The main link, Tokyo's Narita Airport, "is becoming a symbol of Japan's closed nature," says economics professor Yasuo Sakakibara.

New Tokyo International Airport, as Narita is officially called, greets passengers weary by long trans-Pacific flights with crowds and confusion worthy of a cattle market. Then they get a choice between a 200-dollar taxi ride to Tokyo or a wait of an hour or more for a bus.

In the peak travelling season it may take seven hours to get from a Tokyo hotel to a seat on a plane.

As wealthy Japanese tourists streamed abroad and Asia's booming economies filled trans-Pacific jumbo jets, Narita handled 17 million passengers last year — 4 million more than it was planned for

— all squeezing through the same number of immigration counters as when the airport opened in 1978.

"The congestion is terrible," says Richard Jurek, director of Pacific operations for Northwest Airlines. "The day (Narita) opened (11 years ago) it had already reached its comfortable capacity."

Planners hope the new Kansai Airport, an hour's flight west of Tokyo, will relieve the problem at Narita after its scheduled opening in 1993 by handling millions of passengers to and from western Japan. Since Osaka's current international airport has so few flights, many passengers take a gruelling, sometimes overnight trip from Western Japan to catch flights at Narita.

But industry sources say the single runway at Kansai is too short, the distance to Osaka too long,

and its linking highways too narrow. An airport serving a metropolitan region that produces 2 per cent of the world's economic output needs at least three runways, they gripe, not just one, and some fear crosswinds or other weather conditions could put the single runway out of commission. Three originally were planned at Kansai, and the Ministry of Transport is still hoping for them, but the Ministry of Finance says the country can afford only one.

"We're worried ... we foresee a Narita situation may again at Kansai," said David Jones, head of customer Serv British Airways in Japan.

Industry sources predict the Kansai Airport will be full a year or two of its opening. They expect growth in Japan's international passengers in the next few years to nearly match the more than 20 per cent annual growth since 1987.

But airport public relations officer Kenji Sugitani says the airport is big enough for now.

"The airport capacity is sufficient for a certain time," he says.

Today, boats cruise in Osaka Bay where 747s will take off. Dinosaur-like machines diggraze sand into a 4.37-kilometre (2.7 mile) — long box that will be the airport's supposedly earthquake-proof base. The island is one of the deepest of manmade islands, standing in 18 metres (60 feet) of water.

On top of this will rise an ultra-modern terminal with people-movers and indoor landscaping. One of the world's longest two-storey bridges will carry trains and cars over the island's only solid link to land.

As one looks out from the sandy perimeter of the island, the essential components of Japan's airport

suffering emerge from the landscape.

First, geography. The shore is a gray line 3.75 kilometres (2.3 miles) away over open water that very purposefully separates the airport from people. Few Japanese want an airport in their back yard; this one will be a one-hour bus ride from downtown Osaka.

Second, politics. From a towering helicopter pad near the emerging island, radar scans for possible terrorists, and a metre (a few feet) above water level, the structure's base is studded with spikes and barbed wire in a dim echo of the elaborate fortifications against radicals at Narita.

At Narita, expansion is blocked by precisely eight farmers who now grow vegetables on and around the planned second runway and refuse to sell their land.



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## LOST

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KUWAIT City, behind the Meridian Hotel, deluxe room, fully furnished for a Westerner or Filipino only. Rent KD125. Tel. 2407525 and leave message on auto answering machine. (AT3-50486-6)

FARWANIYA, near the Mubarakia School, One room available with Pakistani family. Tel. Eng. Saadet Chaudry, 4679122 ext 407, mornings; 4717626 evenings. (AT4-50570-3)

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KUWAIT City, Murgab, flat 5, second floor, above Shama Store, one room for 4 Muslim bachelors. Tel. Mr. Jaffari, 2425790, from 8 am - 1 pm or contact Mr. Salfar 5 - 8 pm. (AT3-50559-3)

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TOYOTA Corona '87 model, purchased in 1988 direct from the agency. KD2500 (negotiable). Tel. Abu Yalub, 5514758, 5522660. (AT2-50541-3)

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MITSUBISHI Pajero deluxe SWB 1987, 13,500 kms, manual, insured upto December 1990. Lady driver. KD 2,500. Tel. 5382931, 5-8 pm. (AT4-50581-3)

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## SPORTS

## Australia name team for Sri Lanka Test

SYDNEY, Dec 4. (Reuters): Australia today resisted the temptation to include a spinner for the first Test match against Sri Lanka, naming an unchanged team for the game starting in Brisbane on Friday.

Despite the disappointing draw against New Zealand in Perth, the home side will again rely on an all-pace attack with Greg Campbell likely to be named 12th man for the second Test of a six-Test series.

Australia were expected to name a spinner, and perhaps give a young batsman like South Australia's Darren Lehmann a chance, against Sri Lanka who have succumbed by an innings in their two Tests against Australia.

The limitation of non-stop fast bowling, with a little relief provided by the medium pace of Tom Moody, was exposed by

Mark Greatbatch on the final day of the Perth Test.

The left-hander, with an unbeaten 146, thwarted Australia for 11 hours with help from the New Zealand lower order to earn an unlikely draw.

However, no spinner has excelled in the early stages of the Sheffield Shield season following the retirement of leg-spinner

Trevor Hohns who played five of six Ashes Tests in the 1989 tour of England.

Moody retains his place with opener Geoff Marsh who is still sidelined with a broken toe.

Team—Allan Border, (captain), David Boon, Mark Taylor, Dean Jones, Tom Moody, Steve Waugh, Ian Healy, Carl Rackemann, Merv Hughes, Terry Alderman, Geoff Lawson, Greg Campbell.

## Sri Lankans unworried by poor form

ADELAIDE, Australia, Dec 4. (Reuters): Sri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga will approach Friday's first Test against Australia in the same positive manner as the fledgling cricket nation has tackled all its international assignments since 1982.

"We have nothing to lose," the 26-year-old said after the tourists completed their Test warm up by drawing with South Australia today.

No one expects the Sri Lankans to get close to Australia—a situation they have endured since the first of their 27 Test matches seven years ago.

Sri Lanka have just two Test victories to their credit, the last against Pakistan at Colombo in 1986, and most judges anticipate they will add to their 15 losses in Brisbane.

"We have been in the same boat for a long time," Ranatunga said. "But we'll go flat out in the Test matches and will be trying to win."

Ranatunga believes he has a 75-25 chance of playing in Brisbane after missing the South Australia game with a hairline fracture of his left hand. There is also a doubt fast-medium bowler Ramesh Ratnayake who has a groin injury.

The Sri Lankans were 88 for three in their second innings when the rain-shortened South Australia match ended. Opener Roshan Mahanama hit an unbeaten 56 to register his first success in four Test innings.

South Australia, 340 for three overnight, declared at 472 for eight in their first innings, gaining a lead of 198, nineteen-year-old left-hander Darren Lehmann hit 109, his second century in three weeks following his 228 in the Sheffield Shield clash with New South Wales in Adelaide last month.

## Pakistan, India head for draw

Lahore pitch offers no help to bowlers



Imran: conceded 130 runs for two wickets

LAHORE, Pakistan, Dec 4. (Reuters): The Lahore pitch, a batsman's dream on the first three days, looked set today to ensure the third cricket Test between Pakistan and India ended in another draw.

The blameless Khaddaf stadium strip has produced 668 runs at a cost of only 11 wickets and there is little hope of help for the bowlers when play resumes tomorrow after today's rest day. The first two Tests were both drawn.

Nobody enjoyed the Indian first innings more than batsman Sanjay Manjrekar who has become the scourge of the injury-depleted Pakistan bowling, averaging 123.25.

Playing in his eighth Test match, he hit a classy 218 to join only seven Indians to have scored a double century and helped

push India to a record total against Pakistan in Pakistan of 509.

The two captains have had modest games. India's Krishna Srikkanth failed with the bat, losing his wicket without scoring, while the pace attack of his Pakistan counterpart, Imran Khan, was rarely looked so ordinary.

Imran took two wickets but conceded 130 runs and was forced eventually to play with only one slip fielder.

Pakistan responded strongly to the Indian innings, making 159 for one before poor light ended play early yesterday. They need another 151 to avoid the follow-on.

Scores: India first innings 509 (Manjrekar 218, Azharuddin 77), Pakistan first innings 159 for one (Rameez Raja 63, Aamer Malik 60 not out).

## Tasmania and Victoria draw

LAUNCESTON, Australia, Dec 4. (Reuters): The Tasmania-Victoria Sheffield Shield clash here today ended in a draw after Victoria had dramatically taken first innings points.

Victoria was 33 for its second innings when stumps were drawn early after dismissing Tasmania for 409.

Tasmania was 17 runs short of passing Victoria's first innings total of 425 for nine declared.

Highlights of the Tasmania innings were Greg Shipperd's slowest ever century in 481 minutes and Rod Tucker's maiden first class century.

The Victorian heroes were Wayne Phillips and Michael Dimattina. Their quick thinking ran out Alister de Winter for 33 when Tasmania was on 408 and then Simon O'Donnell who trapped Greg Campbell lbw just seven balls later to grab his side the points.

In Newcastle, New South Wales, Queensland lodged an official complaint over the performance of senior umpire Graham Reed after New South Wales' incredible outright win in their Sheffield

Shield match today.

With only 164 runs to defend, and with four players suffering from a food-related virus, New South Wales dismissed Queensland 32 runs short of the target in just over three and half hours to claim their first six Shield points of the season.

Queensland collapsed from 9-0 overnight to 60-5 at lunch, and was all out for 131 at 3.11 pm. It was an epic effort for New South Wales to win. Paceman Mike Whitney did not bowl in the match after breaking his arm on Friday. Mark Taylor and Trevor Bayliss were confined to the dressing room with the virus, and paceman Wayne Holdsworth and wicketkeeper Phil Emery were suffering on the field from the same affliction.

But Queensland captain Greg Ritchie and his men were privately fuming over the standard of umpiring, with no fewer than five dismissals raising the ire of the batsmen.

Mark Waugh's improved medium pacers proved crucial in the absence of Whitney, the valuable wickets of Titchie and Glenn Trimble going his way.



Waldegard with the prize winners

## Kuwaitis shine in Dubai

KUWAITI simulator driving champions Fadel Al Sayafi and Jaber Abdullah Ali took second and third positions in the finals of the Middle East Simulator Challenge on Friday in Dubai, edged out by the UAE champion Aoun Ghandour.

The Gulf-wide competition has run parallel to the Middle East International Rally series, which came to a close with the Emirates International Rally being won by former world rally champion Bjorn Waldegard.

When presenting them with their trophies, Waldegard praised the youngsters on their skills behind the steering wheel.

## Champions

"Fadel and Jaber are both keen on all types of motor sports and are going to be among the champions of the next generation," Waldegard said.

"It will not be long before they are challenging established Middle East Rally stars like Bin Sulayman and Al Hajri, just as those two drivers are competing alongside veterans like myself."

Fadel and Jaber won through to the finals in March this year when the realistic motor racing simulator was in Kuwait in conjunction with the Kuwait International Rally.



Fadel in action during the finals

## Lakers outplay Knicks

INGLEWOOD, California, Dec 4. (AP): James Worthy scored 22 points and Magic Johnson added 20 points and 11 assists as the Los Angeles Lakers capitalized on Patrick Ewing's trouble and held off the New York Knicks 115-104.

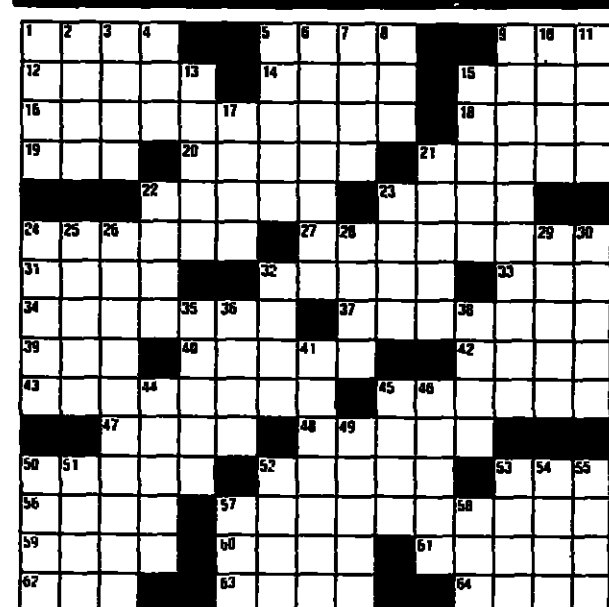
The matchup was the only game in the National Basketball Association last night.

Ewing, who finished with 29 points despite sitting out the last 11 minutes of the first half with three fouls, scored New York's first nine points of the fourth quarter, including a short hook in the lane that reduced the Lakers' lead to 89-88 with 9:35 left to play.

But the Knicks never managed to pull even after that as Ewing picked up two more fouls as the Lakers used a 13-5 run in the last six minutes to build a 110-98 cushion. Johnson capped the rally with a 3-point shot and a 20-footer in a 36-second span.

The victory gave the Lakers the NBA's best record (12-3), a half-game ahead of Pacific Division rival Portland.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Toll road, for short
  - Stiff
  - "— walks in beauty
  - Byron
  - Bullying
  - Vitamin C source
  - Tire mark
  - Part of a city silhouette
  - WWII correspondent
  - Ernie
  - CIA's predecessor
  - Noices, along the Thames
  - Côte d'Or capital
  - Portends
  - South American rodent
  - Wani
  - Penthouse adjuncts
  - Lumbering boats
  - Financial windfall
  - New Zealand parrot
  - Newborn's outfit
  - Augusta golf tournament
  - Wash. D.C. time
  - Consumers
  - Fleur-de-lis
  - Woo with a song
  - Jimmy or Tommy of music
  - Hebrew measure
  - Word with wall, ware or work
  - Dollops
- DOWN**
- Tolerated
  - New Guinea town
  - Lasso
  - Heavenly ad
  - Ripening agent
  - Nap
  - Sharp, nasal tone
  - "High —"
  - M. Anderson play
  - Mimicked
  - Mine finds
  - DOWN
  - El —, Tex.
  - 2 Natives
  - Master and skeleton
  - USNA grad.
  - Boothe Luce
  - Sharp retort
  - City N of Des Moines
  - 8 Sea, in Paris
  - 9 Air pirates
  - 10 City on Hawaii
  - 11 Gene's site
  - 13 Role player
  - 15 Star in Virgo
  - 17 Annoy
  - Repairs socks
  - Cold, north wind of the Alps
  - Outrigger
  - Dingles
  - Rub off
  - Parachutist
  - Stately trees
  - Eldritch
  - Pert
  - Recompense
  - 35 Aurs
  - Peter or Paul
  - Grow weary
  - 41 Make over, as a dress
  - 44 Coat
  - 45 A way out
  - 46 It is said, in France
  - 49 Haunted
  - 50 Enfant terrible
  - 51 Trademark
  - 52 Jump rope
  - 53 Pseudologist
  - 54 "— of Green Gables"
  - 55 Abets, with "on"
  - 57 Resort of a crowd

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

ABEL GAGA AMAN  
LONE EASEL SASE  
ERIC MUTED UPTO  
CEDAR CLOSET LON  
ROE ERASERS  
ADORNERS MOOS  
SOLED IONA DYAN  
END OFFLINE RUE  
ASHE ITON LOUIS  
ITOR SORESPOT  
BECALMS ONA  
ILK ANNIE OAKLEY  
DIOS EASED AIDE  
EZRA SILLS NANA  
DAYO SLAY SRAIS

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠A5 ♥Q10762 ♦Void ♣AKQ972  
The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East  
1 ♠ 1 ♦ 1 ♥ 2 ♦

What do you bid now?

A.—All you are interested in is partner's trump holding. If he has both the ace and king, you should be laydown for a grand slam; if you are missing one, a small slam is enough. Bid five no trump, the Grand Slam Force. This commands partner to bid seven hearts with two of the top three trump honors. If he has none, you are too high, but perhaps partner has six hearts and the ace and king will crash together.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠Q76 ♥9 ♦AQ10962 ♣AQ5  
The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♣ 3 ♣

What do you bid now?

A.—East's preemptive jump has jammed the bidding. If you elect to rebid your diamonds, you are running two risks: First, you are bypassing three no trumps; secondly, you might lose a spade contract. While we realize that partner might have only a poor four-card suit for his response, our choice would, nevertheless, be three spades.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠Q9843 ♥85 ♦QJ63 ♣73  
Partner opens the bidding with a demand bid of two spades. What do you respond?

A.—There's a textbook bid to de-

scribe this hand exactly—a jump to four spades. That shows good trump support while denying a first or second-round control in any side suit.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠QJ63 ♥875 ♦QJ652 ♣73  
The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West  
2 ♠ 2 ♣ ?

What action do you take?

A.—Again, this is a textbook situation. Double. After partner's demand bid, the double announces you have some strength in the overcaller's suit but little or nothing elsewhere. Partner should be perfectly placed to decide what to do.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South with 60 on score you hold:

♠KJ6 ♥Q109 ♦AJ104 ♣QJ9  
What is your opening bid?

A.—If you open one diamond, you could run into all sorts of problems later in the auction. We would opt for one no trump, because of the balanced nature of our hand, the soft values and good intermediates.

With a 60 partial, your no trump range stretches to something like 14-20, and partner must allow for that.

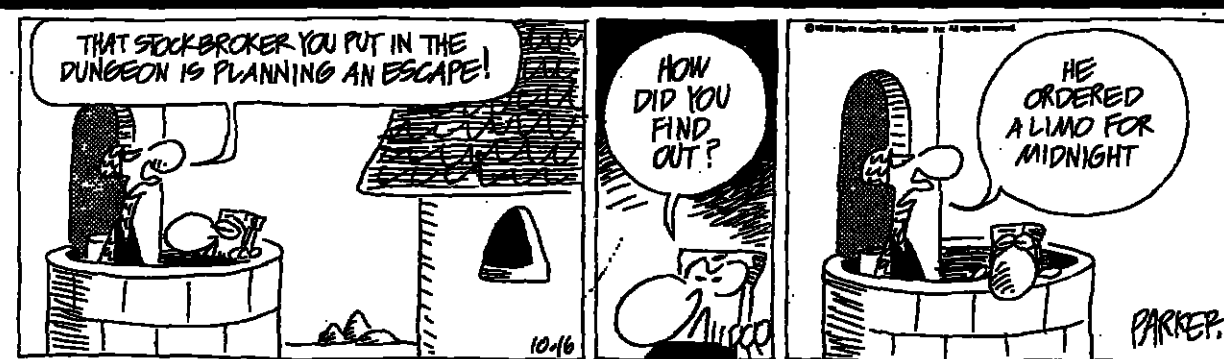
Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South with 60 on score you hold:

♠A1063 ♥K76 ♦QK85 ♣K85  
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What action do you take?

A.—This is a corollary to the previous question. Since partner's no trump must be stronger than usual, it behooves you to raise to two no trump just in case he's on the heavy side for his bid.

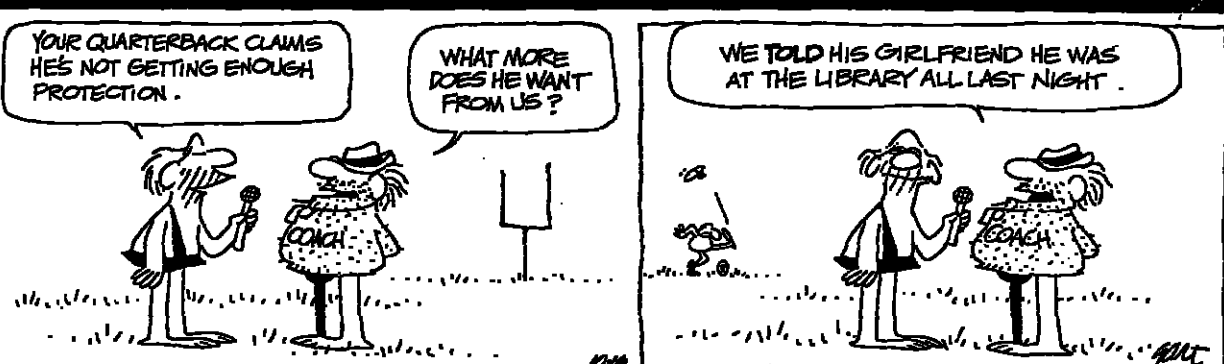
## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Bram Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

## Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will have to be careful not to allow yourself to be hoodwinked. Do not delay something that you know should be done right away. Avoid doing something so quickly that it could well have to be done again. Be polite.

## Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will have some doubts but you can rest secure in the knowledge that you are fundamentally right. A friend will be most grateful to you for some advice you can give him.

## Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Something you hoped would happen will, but not exactly as you would have wished. Still, it will be a lot better than it could have been. You should not say one thing and then do another. Be circumspect.

## Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

What you had feared will not happen, but nor will something you had hoped would. There will be a good opportunity but you could well not realize it until too late. Take the best possible care of your health. Be considerate.

## Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You must try to avoid pressing the wrong "button," or if you do, your best to remedy the error. And do not be too proud to ask for help or advice. Be frugal.

## Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

Something you are doing seems to be taking a long time; never mind, the results will be worth it. You will have to use your judgment and should try not to let it be distorted by prejudice.

## Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

If you make an error with some new device you are learning to use do not be angry with yourself — just try to learn from your mistake. Show a little more consideration and goodwill towards your colleagues. Do not look down on others. Be less solemn.

## Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You will realize what you have been doing wrong and will know how to get it right in future. Something upon which you embarked some while ago will now come up trumps. Make sure you do not eat too many sweet or fatty things. Be tolerant.

## Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You are too liable to dwell on the future, refrain, there is no point in crying over spilt milk. You will find an answer to a problem perhaps not the "right" answer but it works. Show just a little more goodwill towards others. Be reliable.

## Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You should resist the temptation to delay something that you will know should be done now. Avoid exaggerations and do not break any limits of speed or safety. And stay strictly within the law. Be tactful.

## Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Something you have been meaning to do will now be possible. You should not pretend to knowledge you have not got, nor rely on guesswork. Do not be late for an appointment. Be honest.

## Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You should have the courage of your convictions. Your lucky numbers are 7 and 28. Do not do anything that you feel may be wrong. Give others the benefit of any doubt. Be sensible.



### Sporting surprise Salcete

FAILURE to take advantage of several scoring opportunities, and the favourable winds in the first half, cost Salcete United dearly as Goa Sporting entered the quarterfinals with a 1-0 victory over the reigning champions and organisers of the Rothmans Gold Cup Football Tournament, Salcete United Sports Centre, the sports wing of The Weekend Club, at the Sour Grounds on Friday.

Entering the field confidently, Salcete were nowhere near the usual selves as the forward line collapsed in the face of the Sporting defense. Romel, Salcete's star player, might have fared better in midfield. Despite a splendid performance from Mohideen and Victor, the game did not rise above a mediocre level. After the change of ends, Sporting went to work in right earnest and got the lead within minutes through Joaquim Antao whose powerful shot Salcete's keeper, Peter, nearly stopped but let go a while later to concede the only and crucial goal that enabled Sporting to enter the quarterfinals scheduled for next Friday when they will meet Tirum Centre.

In the other game played simultaneously, Goa Cultural Association and G.O.A. Maroons put up an equal display of skill and determination that prevented a score despite going into extra time. The tie had to be broken through the tie-breaker but GCA emerged victorious as their keeper, Albert, stopped the shot of his counterpart, Nicolas of Maroons, thereby earning the right to meet Al Othman in the quarterfinals next Friday.

In the second set of games, Santos Football Club, playing without the services of Benjamin and Chetano, put up a good show before giving in to a solitary goal scored by Incredible's Redualdo Braganza, that clinched for the latter, a slot in the quarterfinals where they will clash with United Goans' Strikers in what promises to be an exciting fare at the Sour Grounds next Friday.

In the last game of the day, Bombay Boys Club went down fighting 3-0 to a more experienced Starlite Goans. Failure to keep up the tempo built up in the first half, cost the Bombay Boys the game enabling Starlite's Joe to score twice and Albert, once, to take the last spot in the quarter. Starlite Goans will now face Rising Stars next Friday.

### Thompson opts out

LONDON, Dec 4, (Reuters): Former Olympic decathlon champion Daley Thompson's hopes of winning a record fourth Commonwealth Games gold medal in Auckland next month ended today.

Coch Frank Dick said Thompson was "not quite ready" for the games but stressed he was not retiring. His new target is the defence of his European title in Split, Yugoslavia, in August.

Thompson, 31, took the decathlon gold medal at the 1978, '82 and '86 Commonwealth Games but has been troubled by a knee injury for some time.

The world record holder underwent an operation in October and, although he has made a full recovery, the interruption to his training programme has caused his withdrawal.

Thompson finished fourth in the Seoul Olympics decathlon after suffering a thigh injury in the pole vault which his pole snapped.

## 49ers within one victory of 7th conference title Wilson helps Vikings cut down Bears

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec 4, (AP): Wade Wilson threw two scoring passes and the Minnesota Vikings had their first long touchdown drive in three weeks in a 27-16 victory last night that severely damaged the Chicago Bears' hopes for a sixth straight championship in the National Football Conference Central Division.

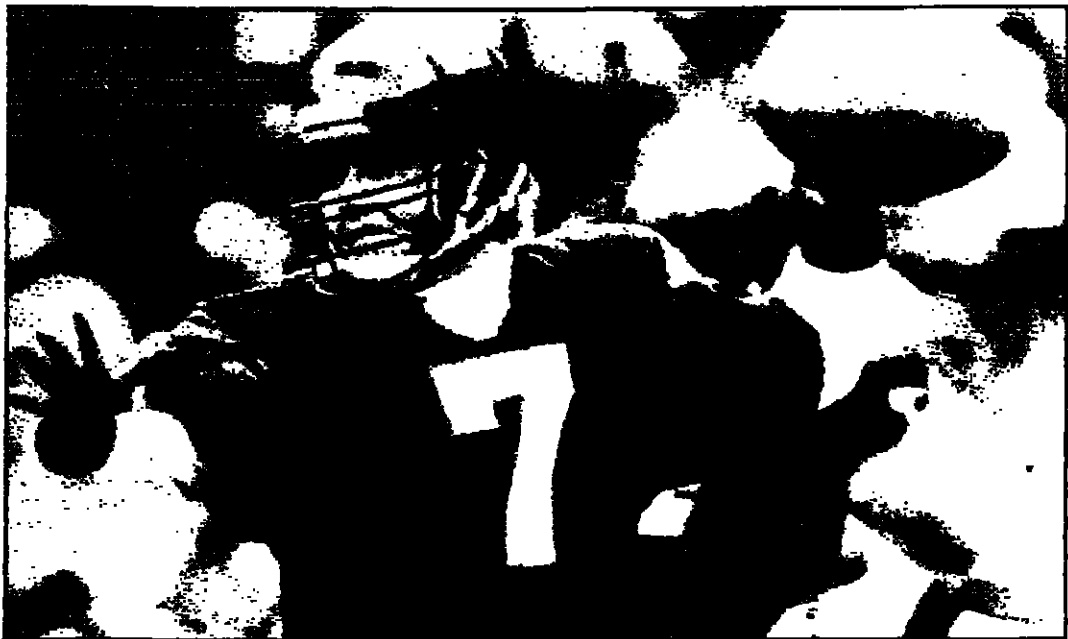
Chicago (6-7) is below .500 for the first time since the next-to-last week of 1983, the last season it missed the playoffs. The Bears, who have lost three straight and are 2-7 after a 4-0 start, last had a losing season in 1982, when they went 3-6 in coach Mike Ditka's first year.

Minnesota (8-5) snapped a two-game losing streak to stay tied with Green Bay atop the division. The Vikings hold a tiebreaker edge over the Packers based on a better division record.

The San Francisco 49ers moved within a victory of their seventh championship of the National Football Conference West Division despite the loss of Joe Montana yesterday.

Montana hurt his ribs again and sat out the entire second half as reserve quarterback Steve Young accounted for two touchdowns in a 23-10 victory over Atlanta.

Young threw a 38-yard scoring pass to John Taylor midway through the third quarter, erasing a 10-6 Atlanta lead, and he scored on a 1-yard sneak 12 seconds into the fourth quarter for a 20-10 lead.



Esiason threw two touchdown passes for Bengals

The 49ers are 11-2 and need only to beat the Rams to clinch the division in the season's 14th week. Coach George Seifert said Montana would probably be back by then.

In other games, it was Philadelphia 24, the New York Giants 17; Kansas City 26, Miami 21; the Rams 35, Dallas 31; Detroit 21, New Orleans 14; Cincinnati 21, Cleveland 0; New England 22, Indianapolis 16; Houston 23, Pittsburgh 16; Green Bay 17, Tampa Bay 16; Washington 29, Phoenix 10; the Los Angeles Raiders 16, Denver 13 in overtime; and Jets 20, Chargers 17.

Buffalo was to play at Seattle this evening. Eagles 24, Giants 17. The Philadelphia Eagles, buoyed by Randall Cunningham's 91-yard wind-carried punt and five New York turnovers, took control of the NFC East. All the Philadelphia points came as the result of New York miscues, the last one followed a fumble by Giants quarterback Phil Simms after Cunningham's punt, the longest in Eagles' history. Both teams are now 9-4, but

gave the Eagles an advantage in any tiebreaker because they also beat the Giants in their first meeting.

Chiefs 26, Dolphins 21. Christian Okoy ran 148 yards, breaking the Chiefs' single-season rushing record with 1,191 yards, and Stephane Paige had 133 yards on receptions from Steve Deberg. The old Kansas City rushing record was 1,121 yards by Joe Delaney in 1981.

Rams 35, Cowboys 31. Jim Everett threw four touchdown passes — two in the last four minutes — as the Rams (9-4)

rallied. Troy Aikman also had four touchdown passes for the Cowboys (11-12). Everett overcame a 31-21 deficit with scoring passes of 39 yards to Ron Brown with 3:58 to go and 23 yards to Aaron Cox with 1:50 left.

Lions 21, Saints 14. Richard Johnson caught eight passes for 248 yards, including a 75-yard touchdown bomb from Bob Gagliano, as the Detroit all but crushed the Saints' slim hopes for a wild card playoff berth.

Bengals 21, Browns 0. Boomer Esiason threw two touchdowns passes, including a 38-yarder to Tim McGee on a trick play, and the Bengals revived their playoff hopes with their first shutout since 1980.

Patriots 22, Colts 16. John Stephens scored on a 10-yard run with 25 seconds left after a penalty kept the drive alive, and Jason Staurovsky kicked five field goals as New England (5-8) overtook Indianapolis (6-7).

Oilers 23, Steelers 16. Lorenzo White ran for 115 yards, including a game-winning 1-yard td with 21 seconds left, and Warren Moon threw two late first-half touchdown passes for Houston (8-5) during a driving snowstorm.

Packers 17, Buccaneers 16. Chris Jacke's 47-yard field goal with no time left kept Green Bay in first place in the NFC Central. The game-winning kick came on the 12th play of a 52-yard drive sustained at the packer 40 by a Tampa Bay pen-

alty. Don Majkowski, who threw two touchdown passes to Sterling Sharpe, set up the score with a 17-yard completion to Carl Bland at the Tampa Bay 30.

Raiders 16, Broncos 13, OT. Jeff Jaeger kicked a 26-yard field goal after 7:02 of overtime, keeping the Raiders' playoff hopes alive with a 7-6 record. The field goal was Jaeger's third of the game.

### Standings

American Conference		Eastern Division		W		L		T		PF		PA	
Buffalo	8	4	0	0	327	257							
Miami	7	6	0	0	263	300							
Indianapolis	6	7	0	0	227	230							
New England	5	8	0	0	257	308							
N.Y. Jets	4	9	0	0	239	329							
Central Division		W		L		T		PF		PA			
Houston	8	5	0	0	318	310							
Cleveland	7	6	1	0	270	194							
Cincinnati	7	6	0	0	305	225							
Pittsburgh	6	7	0	0	193	294							
Western Division		W		L		T		PF		PA			
Denver	10	3	0	0	302	193							
L.A. Raiders	7	6	0	0	265	226							
Kansas City	6	6	1	0	257	239							
Seattle	4	8	0	0	177	248							
San Diego	4	9	0	0	296	335							
National Conference		W		L		T		PF		PA			
Philadelphia	9	4	0	0	271	220							
N.Y. Giants	9	4	0	0	285	228							
Washington	7	6	0	0	300	257							
Phoenix	5	8	0	0	230	293							
Dallas	1	12	0	0	164	388							
Central Division		W		L		T		PF		PA			
Green Bay	8	5	0	0	299	297							
Minnesota	8	5	0	0	362	214							
Chicago	6	7	1	0	313	264							
Tampa Bay	5	8	0	0	274	335							
Detroit	4	9	0	0	221	316							
Western Division		W		L		T		PF		PA			
San Francisco	11	2	0	0	365	216							
L.A. Rams	9	4	0	0	337	280							
New Orleans	6	7	0	0	287	256							
Atlanta	3	10	0	0	208	332							

### Evans wins 400 metres freestyle

ORLANDO, Fla., Dec 4, (Reuters): Triple Olympic gold medalist Janet Evans of the United States won the 400-metre freestyle yesterday at the US Swimming Open swim meet but saw her winning streak end at 27 when she finished second in the 200 metres backstroke.

Evans won the 400 in four minutes 12.13 seconds but came up short in the backstroke as 15-year-old Janie Wagstaff won in 2:15.33. Evans was clocked in 2:17.10.

"I don't keep track of win streaks especially in the backstroke," said Evans, who is strongest in the distance freestyle races. "I am not real concerned with finishing second."

It was the first of six events that Evans, an 18-year-old freshman at Stanford University, plans to swim during the three-day meet, the second competition on the World Cup circuit.

Finishing US Olympic veteran Dan Veatch won the 200 metres backstroke in 2:01.85, finishing ahead of Soviet Sergei Zabolotnov, the former world record holder, in 2:02.93. It was the first time Veatch had beaten the Soviet since 1985.

The meet features the top swimmers from the United States and 14 foreign countries including the Soviet Union, Sweden and Czechoslovakia.

Sharon Davies, 25, of Britain, in the midst of a comeback, was second in the 200 metres individual medley in 2:18.13. American Summer Sanders won the event in 2:17.50.

Davies, who won the silver medal in the 1980 Olympics, had retired but launched a comeback in the European Championship last August.

Yugoslavian national champion Anna Petricevic false started and was disqualified in the 200 metres individual medley in the morning preliminaries. Petricevic, 17, was second in the event in last weekend's World Cup circuit event in Montreal.

### Speelman beats Adams for chess crown

LONDON, Dec 4, (Reuters): English grandmaster Jon Speelman won the inaugural European Speed Chess Championship yesterday defeating countryman Michael Adams in a match in which each player had just five minutes to make his moves.

In speech-chess, a player is usually given 25 minutes to complete the game compared to the 2-1/2 hours for 40 moves allowed in other tournaments.

But Speelman and Adams battled to a draw in the final and under tournament rules had to play a second title match at a five-minute pace.

Speelman reached the final after scoring an upset victory on Saturday over Soviet grandmaster Garry Kasparov, who holds the World Chess Championship as well as the world speed chess title.

Kasparov had been favoured to win the tournament held on a regional basis in Europe for the first time. His loss to Speelman was only his second in competition this year.

Adams fought for the title after beating Jan Timman of the Netherlands, who had defeated Speelman in the World Chess Championship semifinals two months ago.

Speelman pocketed a first prize of £3,000 (\$4,680).

### BASKETBALL

### Spanish player dies in crash

MADRID, Dec 4, (Reuters): Leading Real Madrid basketball player and a star of the Spanish national team, Fernando Martin, died in a car crash in Madrid yesterday.

Martin, 27, was driving a red sports car on Madrid's M30 peripheral motorway on his way to a game against Cai Zaragoza when a car skidded and crashed into his, completely crushing the front of his automobile. He died soon after being taken to hospital.

The game between Real Madrid and Cai was suspended following the news of his death.

Firemen said later Martin was dead when he reached hospital. The driver of the other car and two friends travelling with Martin were very seriously injured.

Martin, a centre, was the only Spanish basketball player to have played in the US National Basketball Association (NBA). He played for the Portland Trail Blazers for a year in 1986.

He had not played the last three games with the national team for the 1991 European Championship because of a foot tendon injury.

## Evergreen brush aside Starlite

MCC and SLY scrape through

A GROUP of 11 superstars of Kuwait could not save Starlite Cricket Club from their third consecutive defeat in three weeks, when they were beaten again by Evergreen by 9 wickets in the Super Cup at the K.C.L. Grounds on Friday. This was their second defeat to Evergreen.

Winning the toss, the Evergreen captain put Starlite into bat, to try their mighty batting side, but the pack of stars like Baber, Bader, Shabir, Iqbal Rizvi and Chris disappointed the organisers and their fans when the whole team were out for 134 runs only in 24 overs.

Baber and Iqbal Rizvi, who came in to open the innings, remained there till the 7th over when Iqbal Rizvi was caught at the total of 38 with his personal score of 19. The other two batsmen, Iqbal Jr and Shabir, were sent back without adding any runs to the total.

Bader, who survived 2 catches, was sent back to the pavilion with his individual score 16. Zia, trying to hold on, lasted for 24 runs which included one mighty sixer. Maqsood was the only other batsman who reached the double figures with 18. Ijaz Butt, Arif and Chris were sent back with scores of 5, 9 and 3 respectively.

For Evergreen, Tariq and Shehzad bowled most accurately though they collected 2 and 1 wicket only but both of them conceded 24 and 17 runs in their quota of 6 overs. The rest of the wickets were shared between Dawood and Rifat, both of them bagged 4 and 3 wickets respectively, giving away 35 and 39 runs only.

With an easy target, Evergreen opened with Ejaz and Tariq and lost the latter for 3. That was the only wicket that Starlite took. Ejaz and Imam kept hammering all the bowlers till they surpassed their required target. Ejaz's stylish innings of 87 runs included 8 boundaries and a mighty sixer, whereas Imam remained unbeaten on 40 runs. Shabir was the only wicket-taker for Starlite.

MCC (Moghul Cricket Club) beat New Pak Cricket Club by four wickets in a KCL Cup match at the NC Ground on Friday.

After winning the toss, MCC opted to field first. New Pak managed to score 136 for the loss of six wickets.

Pervez and Ajmal opened the innings for New Pak but the latter was soon out when he was bowled in the third over of the innings. The next batsman, Ali Wasti, also could not last more than one ball because he was bowled by Zagar on the next delivery.

The score at this stage was only 16 runs but Tariq and Mohammed Ali kept one end intact for a while as Pervez tried

to bring some respectability to the New Pak score. Pervez kept on batting well until he reached 43 when Maqbool took a spectacular catch off Naeem's bowling to send him back to the pavilion. Pervez hit three fours. Tahir then chipped in with a quick 37 off only 31 balls and Hatim hit 16. Mubashir also managed to contribute 10 before the whole New Pak side was out.

For MCC, Naeem But bowled extremely well to take four wickets for 19 runs in six overs. Zagar took two wickets for 30 runs while Farhat and Riaz got one wicket each.

In reply, MCC managed to score 138 for the loss of six wickets in 24.4 overs. MCC opened their innings through Farhat and Tariq but the latter was back in the pavilion very soon when he was bowled by Mohammed Ali on the third ball of the innings.

Riaz joined Farhat but he also went back in Mohammed Ali's second over to leave MCC struggling at two for two. Maqbool and Farhat then took the score to 58 in 11 overs before Maqbool was out, bowled by Tariq for 27. Zagar and Farhat held on for a while but Farhat was out for 31, made with the help of four fours.

Mustafa was out cheaply but Ifthikhar gave some good support to Zagar as MCC moved

into a strong position. Zagar was finally out for 42 but MCC was already near the target. Ifthikhar and Naeem remained unbeaten on 21 and six respectively as MCC scored their victory.

For New Pak, Mohammed Ali, Tariq, Hatim and Hatim took one wicket each. Zagar took the Man of the Match award.

In a friendly match played at the Salmiya ground, Sri Lanka Youth beat Deccan Blue by two wickets.

SLY won the toss but Deccan Blue in to bat. The Deccan Blue batsmen were uncomfortable against some very accurate SLY bowling from the start of the match.

Deccan Blue, however, managed to score 113 runs for the loss of nine wickets in their 20 overs.

For SLY, Noel, Saman and Smith took two wickets each while D'Silva got one.

In reply, SLY went past the victory target in the 18th over for the loss of eight wickets. Tasleem hit 29 while Noel and Saman remained unbeaten on 23 and 10 respectively. SLY were made to recover from a mini-collapse when they lost their first four wickets for 50 runs.

For Deccan Blue, Ashraf and Gilbert took two wickets each. Noel was named Man of the Match.

## Stangassinger scores first win



MONT-STE-ANNE, Quebec, Dec 4, (AP): Austrian Thomas Stangassinger, a five-year veteran of World Cup competition finally scored his first victory yesterday, when he won the slalom.

Stangassinger, 24, completed his runs in a combined time of one minute, 43.51 seconds to beat fellow Austrian Bernhard Gstrein by nearly half a second. Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg was third, another half a second behind.

The one-two finish completed a good weekend for Austria. On Saturday, Guenther Mader won the Giant Slalom, an event in which Austrians filled five of the top 10 positions.

Stangassinger's victory vaulted him into seventh place in the overall World Cup standings with 46 points.

He trails leader Ole Christian Furuseth, of Norway, who has 107 points, but the Austrian, whose previous best performance was second place at a slalom event last year, believes two other highly placed skiers will be the toughest to beat.

"I think Zurbriggen and Girardelli are the best all-round," he said, of Switzerland's Pirmin Zurbriggen and Girardelli, who are fourth and fifth with 68 and 64 points.

Gstrein said he had problems with the soft surface after several inches of snow had fallen throughout the day.

"I couldn't see very well and the snow too soft and you couldn't see the bumps," said Gstrein, who attributed some of his good showing to the fact that he was one of the early competitors in the first run — before the weather deteriorated.

In Vail, Colorado, rebounding from a broken ski that cost her the women's World Cup lead the day before, Austria's Anita Wachter reclaimed first place by capturing a Giant Slalom yesterday.

Wachter paced both runs of the Giant Slalom to hold off a challenge by American Diann Roffe, who recorded her second straight runner-up finish in Giant Slalom.

Switzerland's Vreni Schneider showed the form that enabled her to win six of the seven GS races last season and finished third. Wachter, 22, who now has two first-place and two third-place finishes after six World Cup events this season, had a combined time of 2 minutes, 18.29 seconds for the two runs.

Roffe finished in 2:19.11, and Schneider rallied from fifth place finishing at 2:19.59.

Austrian Sigrid Wolf was fourth at 2:20.19, followed by West German Christine Meier at 2:20.11 and Switzerland's Heidi Zurbriggen at 2:20.66. Regine Moeslechner of West Germany, winner of Saturday's Super Giant Slalom, placed seventh in 2:20.86.



Thomas triumphs

Dieter Thomas (centre) of West Germany won the Husky World Cup ski jump in Thunder Bay, Canada, on Sunday. Austria's Heinz Kuttin (left) was second while Finland's Ari-Pukka Nikkala finished third. (Reuters wirephoto)



## SPORTS

## Masters championship passes into history

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (Reuters): The Masters championship in New York is now history, passing away along with the decade that saw Bjorn Borg, Jimmy Connors, John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl at the top of men's tennis.

Stefan Edberg beat Boris Becker yesterday to win the last Masters — a match on the blue carpet of Madison Square Garden that seemed to trumpet the changing of the guard as well as the decade.

Gone is the old Grand Prix tour — the player-

run ATP Tour starts in January.

Gone is the Masters championship — the ATP finals move in as the season-ending championship next November in Frankfurt, West Germany.

Gone is world number one Ivan Lendl. Well, almost.

Lendl is still top-ranked, according to the computer, but in his heart he knows Becker is now the man to beat. The 22-year-old West German, despite his loss to Edberg, knows as

well.

Lendl won 10 tournaments this year but Becker took the big ones, capturing his third Wimbledon crown before winning the US Open, his first Grand Slam triumph on a surface other than grass.

This year he has also been nearly invincible indoors, winning 25 and losing just twice on the carpet as his groundstrokes have improved to complement his awesome serve.

Becker, who has inspired forecasts of great-

ness since he burst on the scene by winning Wimbledon at the age of 17, believes he is on the brink of making good those predictions.

"Right now I'm kind of the unofficial number one," he claimed after his match with Edberg.

"I've obviously had my best year. I guess you can call it growing up. I've been a professional for six years now.

"Almost my first year, I won Wimbledon. After that everything was different. I didn't have the chance to grow up anymore."

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Souness reported

GLASGOW, Scotland, Dec. 4. (UPI): Scottish soccer champion Glasgow Rangers manager Graham Souness was today reported to the Scottish Football Association by police following an argument with an opposing player. Souness is alleged to have clashed with Hearts and Scotland defender Dave McPherson in the players' tunnel after Saturday's game.

## Financial trouble

SYDNEY, Dec. 4. (Reuters): Soviet yacht Fazi is facing serious financial problems as it prepares for the third leg of the Whitbread Round-the-world Race to Auckland, beginning on December 12.

## Snooker event

PRESTON, England, Dec. 4. (Reuters): Stephen Hendry of Scotland ended a determined fight-back including a tournament high break of 138 by Steve Davis to beat the world number one 16-12 in the final of the United Kingdom Snooker Championship yesterday.

## Test drive

LONDON, Dec. 4. (Reuters): Briton Jonathan Palmer said yesterday he would test drive a McLaren car at Estoril on Friday, beginning what he termed a long term link with the Formula One motor racing team.

## \$60,000 donation

ZURICH, Dec. 4. (Kuna): Prince Faisal Bin Fahd, president of the Saudi Arabian Football Association, has donated \$60,000 to a fair play competition to be held by the Asian Football Confederation according to the International Federation of Football Association.

## Contract renewed

PARIS, Dec. 4. (UPI): Michel Platini has renewed his contract as head of the French national soccer team, ending speculation that he would accept a post at Juventus of Turin, the French Soccer Federation said yesterday.

## Fair share

EAST BERLIN, Dec. 4. (Reuters): East Germany, which has produced its fair share of world-beating athletes but has yet to find the answer to West Germany's Boris Becker and Steffi Graf, is aiming for the top in tennis.

## Club final

RABAT, Dec. 4. (Reuters): Raja of Casablanca's Mouloudia of Oran 1-0 (half-time 0-0) in the first leg of the 25th African Champion Club Cup final in Casablanca yesterday.

## Knee injury

LONDON, Dec. 4. (Reuters): Scotland's British Lion fly-half Craig Chalmers was forced yesterday to pull out of his country's rugby union international against Romania at Murrayfield on Saturday with a knee injury.

## Doak-Davis wins

SACRAMENTO, California, Dec. 4. (AP): Nan Doak-Davis pulled away from an injured Margaret Groos after 13 miles (21 kilometres) and made her marathon debut yesterday by winning the women's championship at the seventh annual California International Marathon.

## NHL games

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (Reuters): Results of National Hockey League (NHL) games played on Sunday:

Boston	Philadelphia	1
Buffalo	St. Louis	3
Edmonton	Toronto	3
Detroit	Chicago	3
Vancouver	Minnesota	5

## Hollywood Starlet

INGLEWOOD, California, Dec. 4. (AP): Cheval Volant beat Annual Reunion by 1-1.2 lengths to cap a stretch battle between longshots in the \$500,000 Hollywood Starlet 2-year-old fillies yesterday at Hollywood Park.

## Johnson quits

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Dec. 4. (AP): The chairman of the board of directors of the Auckland Commonwealth Games company resigned today following media reports of a police investigation into unrelated financial transactions. David Johnson announced his resignation less than two months before the 1990 Games are due to begin.

## BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Regency Bridge Club game played on Sunday evening:

1. Sherin Basyouni & Ahmed Haidi
2. Mamdouh Sabri & Ahmed Tawil
3. Hakan & Teme

Results of the Messiah Ladies Bridge Club game played on Monday:

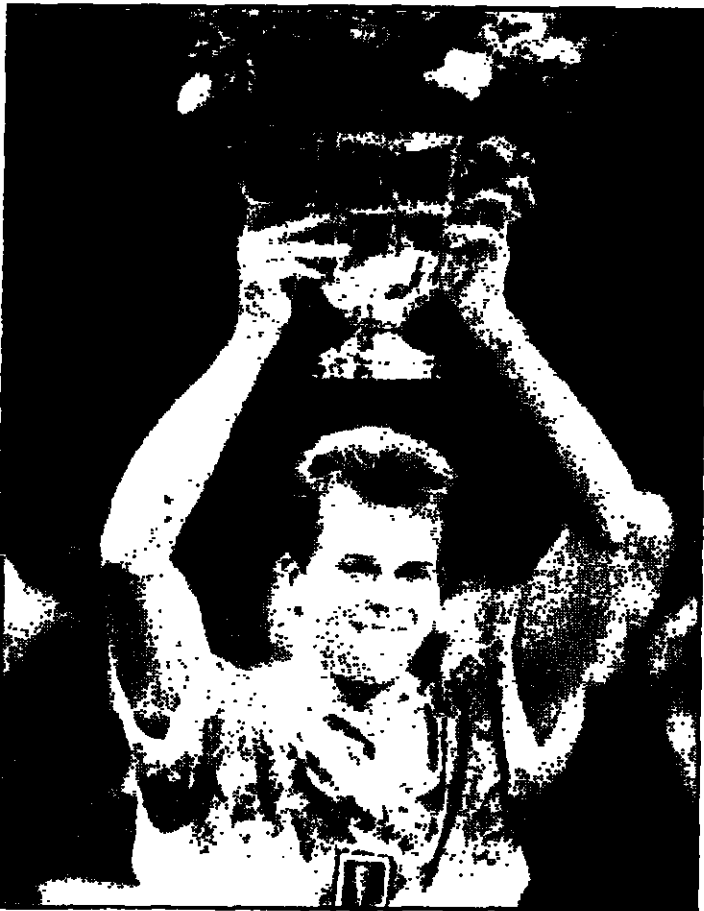
1. Nabil Akel & Lolli Murthwaite
2. Jamila Akel & Nuh Khalaf
3. Rabab Abboushi & Shahla Dagher

The Messiah Ladies Bridge Club will be holding their bi-monthly tournament on Monday, Dec. 18, at the Messiah premises at 9.00 am.

Sheraton Bridge Club game will be held at Kuwait Regency Palace today at 8.00 pm.

## Edberg wins Masters

## Becker overwhelmed by Swede



Edberg holds up the trophy after beating Becker. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (Reuters): Stefan Edberg salvaged a frustrating season with a devastating one-two punch in upsetting defending champion Boris Becker in the final of the Masters Grand Prix tennis championship yesterday.

Edberg, who had lost six of seven previous finals this year, rescued his year by beating his West German nemesis 4-6, 7-6, 6-3, 6-1 to add \$150,000 to his winnings for a total tournament haul of \$285,000.

Edberg won in style as he knocked out world number one Ivan Lendl in Saturday's semifinals before setting a score with number two-ranked Becker, who wrested the Wimbledon crown from him in last summer's grass court final.

"I've been waiting for this for some time," said the Swede, ranked number three in the world. "I really needed a victory, it's been very frustrating losing all those finals."

Becker collected \$165,000 for his efforts here and also pocketed \$550,000 for finishing second in the season's points standings behind Lendl, who took home an \$800,000 bonus.

Edberg was overwhelmed 6-4, 6-1 by Becker on Friday in the tournament's round robin phase but he was nothing short of brilliance in yesterday's rematch

of the two best serve-and-volleyers in tennis.

Becker said the replay undoubtedly worked in Edberg's favour.

The match turned during the second set tie-break when Edberg survived a set point serving at 5-6 when Becker's forehand return sailed long. Edberg then blasted an ace and punished a Becker second serve with a searing forehand for a winner that gave him the set.

People don't realise how close a tennis match can be, Becker said. "If I win set point in the tie-break I can win an easy three-set match. I didn't and he did. That gave him confidence."

Becker won the battle of the big servers in the opening set after being stung by an early service break.

Edberg broke in the second game but that only seemed to arouse Becker, who broke back at love and then held at love.

After Edberg's break, Becker lost just one point in three service games and broke the Swede at 15 in the seventh game for the deciding edge.

Edberg took the early advantage again in the second set when he stunned Becker by whipping a backhand cross-court winner off the West German's first serve for a 3-1 lead.

## England name squad for friendly

LONDON, Dec. 4. (Reuters): England soccer manager Bobby Robson gave young strikers Steve Bull and David Platt the chance today to claim World Cup places.

He named both men in the squad for the friendly match against Yugoslavia at Wembley on December 12.

Bull, who has created a formidable reputation in the lower divisions with Wolves, and Platt, the in-form Aston Villa forward, have been called up following England's failure to score in three outings so far this season.

Manager Robson also elevates defenders

Paul Parker and Tony Dorigo and Arsenal midfielder Michael Thomas into the senior squad after encouraging displays for the England B team against Italy last month.

But there is again no place for costly pair Paul Gascoigne, of Tottenham and Manchester United centre back Gary Pallister who join Arsenal's Tony Adams and Everton striker Mike Newell in the B squad to face their Yugoslav counterparts 24 hours earlier.

Bull, yet to start an international, would probably have played last month in a friendly against Italy had he not been serving a three-

match suspension.

He scored on his debut as a substitute in Scotland last May and also had a 30-minute run-out in Denmark.

Squad:

Peter Shilton, Dave Beasant, Gary Stevens, Paul Parker, Tony Dorigo, Terry Butcher, Des Walker, Stuart Pearce, Mark Wright, Bryan Robson, Mike Phelan, Michael Thomas, Steve Hodge, Steve McMahon, David Rocastle, Gary Lineker, Peter Beardsley, Chris Waddle, John Barnes, David Platt, Steve Bull.

## NSC bids again to stop rebel tour

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 4. (Reuters): The main group spearheading attempts to stop the English rebel cricket tour of South Africa said today it would make a last-minute bid to pull the financial plug.

The National Sports Congress (NSC) said in a statement that anti-apartheid groups would seek to meet the country's leading cricket sponsors who might be persuaded to withdraw financial support in other areas if the tour went ahead.

"An urgent meeting will be sought with the major sponsors of the South African Cricket Union (SACU) to

appeal to them to revise and reconsider their support for the internal programmes of the SACU," the statement said.

The congress, an offshoot of the country's main anti-apartheid coalition, the mass democratic movement, says that it has already persuaded some major companies not to sponsor this tour or another planned for 1991.

The NSC recently sent a delegation to England to speak to the rebels, including former England skipper Mike Gatting, in a vain attempt to persuade them to stay at home.

## Title fight

LAS VEGAS, Dec. 4. (Reuters): Former three-time world champion Alexis Arguello wants to see a "classy" fight between Sugar Ray Leonard and Robert Duran on Thursday, but he is not so sure he will get his wish. Arguello said yesterday he believes the two fighters may hate each other too much for them to be at their best when Leonard puts his World Boxing Council super middleweight title on the line in a scheduled 12-round outdoor fight.

## Maradona understudy spurs Napoli to victory

AN obscure understudy to Diego Maradona emerged as Napoli's new hero after spurring the Italian League leaders to a sparkling 3-1 win against Atalanta on Sunday and a four-point lead at the top of the table.

Gianfranco Zola, a Third Division player two seasons ago, filled the number 10 shirt of the famous Argentine with total aplomb and completed the rout by scoring his first goal in Division One, a curling shot from the edge of the area.

Zola ceded his place to Maradona, who was nursing a back strain, for the final 10 minutes of the match and then said he owed his success to the Argentine ace.

"If I scored it's also thanks to him. He told me things that fired me up but don't go comparing us, for goodness sake," said the 23-year-old Sardinian.

The victory, which included goals from Massimo Crippa and Brazilian Careca, was the perfect tonic for UEFA Cup holders Napoli as they head into a crunch third round tie against Werder Bremen tomorrow, when Maradona is expected to play.

Bremen, who hold a one goal first leg over Napoli, were less impressive at the weekend losing 2-1 away to lowly Fortuna Dueseldorf, with Guenter Hermann missing his third chance from the penalty spot this season.

Napoli have a much-needed



Maradona, expected to play tomorrow

cushion against determined challenges from European champions AC Milan and Italian titleholders Internazionale.

Both lie joint second with Sampdoria, held to a scoreless draw at Lecce, after Milan beat

Bologna 1-0 and Inter came back from a goal down to overcome Cesena 3-2.

In the Netherlands, Feyenoord took advantage of icy conditions to restore their tarnished reputation with a shock 4-0 home

victory against defending champions PSV Eindhoven.

It was the most convincing win over PSV in 25 years for Feyenoord, who have been languishing at the bottom of the table. The Rotterdam side have won just three out of 16 matches this season and their victory still leaves them in 16th place.

PSV stay top but only on goal difference. They are level on 21 points with Ajax Amsterdam and Roda JC but with a game in hand.

Bordeaux and Marseille continued their exclusive duel at the top of the League in France, where a long tradition ended at the weekend.

To save spectators the rigours of cold evenings, clubs played on a Sunday afternoon for the first time in more than 20 years.

Bordeaux kept their three-point lead by beating Montpellier 2-0, but their performance was overshadowed by that of Marseille and their star-striker Jean-Pierre Papin.

The French champions crushed fourth-placed Toulouse 6-1 as Papin scored a hat-trick to bring his goal tally to 15.

Behind the top duo the chase has virtually ceased, as third-placed Sochaux, beaten 1-0 at Paris Saint-Germain, are now lying 10 points behind Bordeaux.

In the Spanish League Real Madrid maintained their three-point lead despite a goalless draw

to modest Celta in Vigo. Valencia beat Barcelona 2-1, leapfrogging the Catalonians to share second place with Real Sociedad.

Real Madrid coach John Toshack said the draw was a success given that his players were still tied from their Spanish Cup victory over Atletico Madrid last week.

Atletico, smarting from their Cup elimination, were held to a goalless home draw against Real Sociedad.

Atletico coach Javier Clemente had no comforting words for his team, who slipped to sixth place. "We lacked punch, rhythm, control, nerves. We did not deserve to win," he said.

The constant reshuffle at the head of the West German First Division continued as Bayer Leverkusen, 2-0 winners over Nuremberg, replaced Cologne at the top with 25 points from 18 matches.

Bayern Munich, Eintracht Frankfurt and Cologne are lurking, in that order, just one point behind.

Among West Germany's quartet in UEFA Cup action this week, only VfB Stuttgart, who receive Antwerp, won in the League, beating Cologne 3-1.

Stuttgart, with only one goal to make up against Antwerp, will be without injured defender Guido Buchwald for this evening's match. (Reuters)



Becker lies on the court after diving for a shot. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Comaneci describes escape to the West

LONDON, Dec. 4. (UPI): Romanian gymnast Nadia Comaneci, who spent the weekend in New York after her defection to the United States, dived through frozen fields and icy water in fear of armed border patrols during her harrowing escape to the West, a British newspaper reported yesterday.

In an interview published by the Mail in London, Comaneci told how she and six friends fled her homeland and how her boyfriend, Constantin Panait, 34, helped arrange her escape after she agreed to the plan two weeks ago.

Comaneci told the Mail she left her parents' Bucharest home the night of Nov. 26 with no money and only the clothes on her back, leaving behind a photograph of her family and her Olympic gold medals.

"I could not say goodbye to my parents," Comaneci told the Mail after arriving in New York. "I even had to lie to my brother."

Comaneci said she was driven by Panait, a builder living in California, in a rented car to Timisoara, 10 miles (16 km) from the Hungarian border. Panait, who appears to have had an official Romanian exit permit, dropped the group off there as planned, arranging to meet them on the other side of the border in Szeged, Hungary.

"It was midnight when we started

out, walking through mud and open countryside," said Comaneci, who added the journey left her scratched and bruised. "We were stumbling and often crawling through water and ice. We saw no guards but we heard their dogs barking in the distance. It was terrifying."

"We didn't know if the border area was mined. We could have been blown up or shot by the guards. We didn't even think what would happen if we were caught alive. It almost certainly would have meant going to prison in Romania."

After crossing the border, the group realised they missed the rendezvous point with Panait and began walking along a road where they were picked up by a Hungarian border patrol.

We never let on we were planning to go to the West," Comaneci said. "I didn't know what would happen if I said I wanted to go to America."

A frantic Panait searched Hungarian police stations until he was directed to Comaneci, who was given identity papers and put up in the Hotel Royal in Szeged to await further questioning, the newspaper said.

Comaneci fled the next morning to Austria, crossing the border with her friends near Sopron Tuesday night after the group was dropped off by Panait, the Mail said.

## Wild and Ismail help KES win

THE Kuwait Premier League kicked off with the first league game being played between BMW and KES at the Saleh Sports Ground on Sunday evening.

The match began with BMW threatening to run riot with the KES defence with both Crouchman and Craft coming close to scoring. After twenty minutes play, however, KES began to take control of the midfield, with Wild and Ismail dictating the play in the middle of the park.

McGowan was kept busy in goal, saving good shots from Royle and Wild, but it was a goalkeeper's error unfortunately that led to the first goal, after a poor throw by McGowan was intercepted by Wild who played an effective one two with Ismail and then hammered the ball past McGowan.

BMW began to threaten the KES defence and equalised after a cross from Craft as challenged by Crouchman, resulting in the keeper and full back Grey colliding with each other, and the ball in the back of the net.

K.E.S. fought back and the terrier like Wild took control of the midfield, leaving BMW in shreds. Their reward came just before half-time when Royle crashed a header against the post which was knocked in by Ismail. KES continued to dominate the midfield, with BMW having no answer to the hard working KES midfield players.

The chance to put the game beyond the reach of BMW was wasted when Ismail hit his shot ten feet over the bar. KES managed to hold on to their lead to the final whistle with good defensive work particularly by veteran, Bill Whittham and son Justin.

All in all, a good start to the league with the game played to good spirits, which was certainly an enjoyable experience for the numerous spectators.



Al Ahli triumph

Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait won the bowling tournament organized for banks recently. Manny Insetto, of Al Ahli, took the High Series games as well as the High Game. The tournament was organised by the Kuwait International Hotel and Mitsubishi Pajero. Above: Hendrik J. Kwant, ABK general manager, with the winning team. Manny is on the extreme left.



World Cup trophy

Argentinian Soccer Federation president Julio Grondona carries the gold World Cup trophy into Rome from Argentina on Sunday. The Cup, insured at \$230,000, was whisked away under armed guard in preparation for the World Cup in Italy next year. (Reuters wirephoto)

ARAB @ TIMES

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